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No. 4509

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LITERATURE

The Wellesley Papers. By the Editor of 'The Windham Papers.' 2 vols. (Herbert Jenkins, 11. 12s.)

MASSSES of Wellesley papers have long remained unexplored at the British Museum, and it was high time that some competent investigator should deal with them. The editor of 'The Windham Papers' has obviously many qualifications for his task. He is well acquainted with the politics of the last century and a half, and knows a good deal of the social ramifications of the period, about which he often maintains a discreet and suggestive silence. For the most part his annotations are accurate and to the point, though there are some mistakes (*e.g.*, in the title of Henry Wellesley's office at Oxford) and unnecessary repetitions (such as the notes on Metcalfe, practically the same at a distance of ten pages), and a fuller use of the literature of the time would have made the present volumes more interesting; but there is a good deal that now appears in print for the first time which we are glad to see.

The editor's aim has been first to "throw light on the character and actions" of the Marquess Wellesley, and secondly to "supplement our knowledge of affairs during the period of history that comes within his lifetime." The second aim is less successfully accomplished than the first, perhaps because there is little in the papers to add to our knowledge. Nothing new is given about India, the most important scene of Wellesley's public service; nothing about his embassy to Spain (in regard to which Spanish documents might have

been consulted), which was an attractive episode in his life; very little about his tenure of the Foreign Office from 1809 to 1812, though a considerable number of extremely interesting and outspoken letters from Canning find a place in both volumes, which serve, perhaps, rather to illustrate that statesman's character, its buoyancy, its vehemence, and its tendency to intrigue, than to add to our knowledge of the politics of those years. There is a good deal that is new in the account of Wellesley's futile efforts to form a Government in 1812, which failed, no doubt, partly in consequence of his own autocratic attitude, but also because Earl Grey and Lord Grenville definitely refused to join him.

That autocratic temper was, indeed, his political ruin. He had been spoilt by India. He was of a much less adaptable nature than even the Iron Duke. It is generally thought that it is far more difficult for one who has held high military rank to submit himself to the rough and tumble of politics than it is for a high Government official to do so. Several Indian or Colonial Governors have returned and risen to high posts in England, though there are conspicuous instances of failure. But the example of Wellesley and Wellington looks the other way. The third genius among the five brothers took a different course, and achieved high fame without any difficulty as Lord Cowley and Ambassador at Paris. In Ireland Wellesley was not a popular Lord-Lieutenant; his ostentatious manner was the very thing that his fellow-countrymen could not stomach. But he was a determined advocate of Catholic Emancipation, and entertained distinctly "Liberal" views on the matters which divided parties. His two terms of service in Ireland showed him in a very sympathetic light, but he was not properly supported from home, and did not achieve much, though his biographer Pearce not unfairly pointed to several works of public utility for which he was responsible during his first administration, which ended at the beginning of 1828. He served there again for a year in 1833, when Charles Greville made the bitter comment "it is a ridiculous appointment" and "the very worst they could hit on," a severe judgment which he soon had reason to withdraw. But Wellesley had no time in 1833 to achieve anything. He had before this been Lord Steward of the Household, and later under Melbourne he became Lord Chamberlain, "rather than forgo power altogether," says the editor of these volumes rather too sharply. The truth probably is that he needed all the money he could get, and hoped that his long and distinguished service might give him influence quite apart from the office which he actually held. But the editor's further comment is doubtless true:—

"A perusal of the correspondence will suggest that the reason for his exclusion was his open contempt for his colleagues, and his dictatorial manner. When he was at the Foreign Office he did not deign to consult the Cabinet. Perhaps only with Brougham,

many of whose letters are included in these volumes, was it more difficult to work."

In the last year of his life the Marquess wrote a review of his services to the Empire. They were indeed great—as great, perhaps, as those of any other man living at the time. It may certainly be said that it was he who established our power in India on a permanent basis, and he who made the victories in the Peninsula possible and hence ultimately caused the downfall of Napoleon. But he was not content with the achievements which were genuinely his own, and was always attributing to himself all that was done by his subordinates or other agents in the same field. There was never a more conspicuous instance of megalomania—a striking contrast to his brother the Duke of Wellington. Samuel Rogers said that Wellesley cared for nothing but display, while Wellington scorned it altogether—an exaggeration, no doubt, but one not far from the truth. Rogers, however, was quite ready to be extremely polite to him, as was another of his back-stabbing critics, Creevey. But the Life is a disappointing one to read, and Wellesley's own dissatisfaction with his treatment was not unnatural or unjustified. The end is happier:—

"It is agreeable to be able to record that in the evening of the life of Wellesley the great work he had done in India was fully recognized, and substantial tribute paid to him."

The character of the great Marquess had conspicuous blemishes which it is impossible to excuse on the ground that moral laxity was common in his day. But "noscitur a sociis," and no man could be far below nobility of life who was the friend of Pitt and Canning and Wilberforce, who was so good a father and so sincere and reverent (in spite of his lapses) in his religion. The letters to and from his friends are the pleasantest part of these volumes. There is a most amusing one to Lord Grenville, written from Fort William on November 18th, 1798, just six months after his landing. (Mornington's letter to Sir Alured Clarke, dated Kedgeree, May 16th, 1798, still in MS., is before us as we write, composed in a less pompous style than that which he assumed a few years later.) A really good letter from Wilberforce a year later is worth reading. (Wellesley, by the way, vigorously denounced the Life of his old friend, when it appeared forty years later, for "the shreds and patches of morbid pietastery in which the injudicious biographers have disfigured their father.")

One letter of Pitt's is given. It was written on January 12th, 1806, immediately on the Viceroy's return. Wellesley saw him on January 14th for the last time. On the 12th he had written quite hopefully; on the 23rd he was dead. Wellesley's sketch of his friend (*Quarterly Review*, vol. lviii.) is the most sincere and beautiful thing he ever wrote. A contrast to the warmth here displayed is the frigidity of the two

letters from Lady Mornington—the “mother of the Gracchi,” as some one rather ineptly called her—which may account perhaps for some of the weaknesses of her children’s characters.

The letters from Canning show genuine friendship, continued when Wellington was on bad terms first with one and then with the other of the friends. The imperious spirit of Richard Wellesley and the dogged obstinacy of Arthur made their relations, indeed, frequently of a very difficult character; but the editor of these Papers probably does not know how emphatic was the Marquess’s condemnation of his brother, revealed on one occasion when he was in Ireland, to his secretary, who has not long passed away. Mr. Charles Gore, to whom we refer, was after his service to Wellesley attached for some years to Melbourne—a strange change, in view of the bitter animosity these two statesmen entertained for each other.

Further letters show sides of Wellesley’s life not so well known. His son Henry writes from the Lord Chancellor’s living of Dunsfold, announcing his engagement to the daughter of the neighbouring rector of Hascombe, and rejoicing in being made a royal chaplain. There is at least one letter from his elder son Richard, and one or two from his daughter Hyacinthe, Mrs. Littleton (the first Lady Hatherton). There are several letters from or allusions to the late Mr. Alfred Montgomery, and to or from the Marquess’s second wife, a lady of much intelligence and charm. But most frequent in later life are the letters from Brougham (to whom Wellesley dedicated his *Primitiæ et Reliquiæ*), which show that acid and venomous personage in quite a pleasant light. There is, in fact, a great deal of personal interest in the volumes; enough, we add, to make us wonder whether there is not much more in the mass of still unpublished materials, and whether a larger biography than has yet appeared might not be desirable.

THE YOUNG TURKS.

MR. PICKTHALL, who knows the Muslim better than the Christian, contends in ‘*With the Turk in Wartime*,’ and with much reason, that the Turks have never had fair treatment at the hands of Europe, because the old plundering, intolerant Crusading spirit is still active, and the average uninstructed Englishman—amongst others—holds a Mohammedan to be plain heathen writ large (because less open to conversion), just as his forefathers did *tempore Ric. I.* Christianity once confused with its professors, it is an easy leap to the fallacy that, because it is in several respects a higher form of religion than its chief theistic rival, therefore all who profess and call themselves Christians, even in the most formal, lifeless, and ignorant acceptance of the term, are necessarily superior to all Muslims. On

With the Turk in Wartime. By Marmaduke Pickthall. (Dent & Sons, 5s. net.)

this theory the Turk is manifestly the inferior of his rapacious Balkan neighbours. But if we could imagine the respective creeds interchanged, and the recent squalid scramble to be one of sundry Muslim bandits against a Christian Turkey, there can be little doubt that the sympathy of England would be all for the Turk. This is Mr. Pickthall’s view, and, unfortunately, it is shared by the victims themselves.

“All Muslims hold it more or less, and they are justified by the whole course of recent history.... Our self-righteousness is principally to blame for the horror which has filled the East upon the recrudescence of the wicked old crusading spirit in our midst, duly reported by the Turkish and the Indian press, at a time when Turkey was deserving of all human pity. We had talked as if fanaticism were extinct in England.”

When his Turkish friends told him that the British Government was “treacherous, faithless, inconsistent,” Mr. Pickthall characteristically replied that

“our leaders are not always of the first intelligence. They sometimes make mistakes, and dare not own them. Our people are tenacious of old prejudices. We are, upon the whole, a most unamiable nation, composed of quite well-meaning individuals.”

It is some consolation to find that the Turks still appreciate individual Englishmen, because they are better educators than the French, and do not try to make their pupils English; whilst “we like the Germans,” said an intelligent Turk, with a laugh.

“With a little practice and instruction they make quite good Turks. But they are too pervasive. We are much afraid of them, desiring, as we do, to keep our country.”

The object of this book, which describes the author’s impressions during his long stay in Turkey last year, is to remove some of the old prejudices of which we English are so tenacious. He would, perhaps, have been more successful if he had written more temperately; for, after all, it was not fanatical Christianity in Sir Edward Grey that dictated our recent policy in the Balkan imbroglio, and there were worse things to be guarded against than even the treacherous and wholly indefensible partition of European Turkey. Much as the present reviewer likes and honours the Muslim, whom he too has known well, it must be confessed that the Turk is not always compact of all the virtues, though he is usually a very decent, God-fearing, virtuous, and kindly human being, much like other people, only, perhaps, rather better. Mr. Pickthall’s book will do good if it brings this fact home to English readers. He had exceptional opportunities, and his long familiarity with Syrians and Egyptians enabled him to use these opportunities far better than ordinary observers. He enjoyed the unique advantage of being domiciled in the house of a European Muslima, a lady with a large Turkish acquaintance, and in her garden, near the Asiatic coast of the Sea of Marmara, he was privileged to converse with numerous unveiled Turkish ladies, who seem to have been almost invariably young and beautiful. He prudently induced his wife to join him after a few weeks; but before she arrived he had

been welcomed by the Mohammedan ladies with a friendly, unconventional cordiality and entire absence of self-consciousness which will be amazing to those who have not watched the recent development of Muslim society.

“I was [he says] admitted fully to a little circle of advanced French-speaking Turks, of which the ladies were permitted to adopt me as a brother; while the old-fashioned men—the vast majority—assured me that their wives and daughters were much looking forward to my wife’s arrival. Kind messages were sent me by women who would have perished rather than be seen of me.”

It must be added that this comparatively free intercourse would have been impossible for a native. Mr. Pickthall tells of a lady who had been chatting unveiled with him in Misket Hanum’s garden, but who immediately veiled and withdrew when a Muslim youth came in sight. “What nonsense it all is!” grumbled the offended young man. “She talks unveiled to you, a stranger, and hides from me whom she has known a baby!” One reason for this is that marriage between a Muslima and a Christian man is strictly forbidden, and therefore the man must not even think of her in that light; another is that Europeans are accustomed to seeing women, and Turks are not, and the degrees of self-control vary accordingly. But even when “merry laughter” from white-draped figures in the garden called Mr. Pickthall from his retreat, and the girls rebuked him for his “old-fashioned” ideas and bade him “recognize the great advance the Turks had made upon the ways of my beloved Arabs,” it is clear that the innovation was still new enough to carry “the flavour of an escapade,” and “the voices of the women died away as we drew near the public road”; though, for that matter, no Turk will be seen abroad with his womenfolk. The ‘*Impressions*’ of Zeyneb Hanum, the twice *désenchantée*, may have prepared some readers for Mr. Pickthall’s revelations of the liberty of modern Turkish society, and not merely of the French-speaking coterie which he first met; he not only confirms, but even enlarges her views, and deliberately records his judgment of Turkish women in these uncompromising terms: “I knew them to be generally charming, trained to submission, yet high-spirited, and far less narrow-minded than the women of the West.” They are also “intensely patriotic, and, as a rule, more energetic than the men.”

We have dwelt long upon this side of Mr. Pickthall’s impressions, because the higher-class women of the East are an undiscovered country to most Europeans, and wholly mistaken views prevail as to their character, education, and social position. The future of their nation lies largely in their hands, and it is encouraging to hear so much to their credit. But the greater part of this absorbing book consists of conversations with Turks of all conditions, from the famous Tal’at Bey down to the mere loungee in the street or the gardener of the author’s hostess. He went out with a strong distrust of the Young Turkish party, and his earliest

acquaintances belong to their opponents, the "Liberals" who followed old Kiamil Pasha; but he soon became an ardent convert, and some of the liveliest passages in his book describe the intense hostility between the Unionists (or Committee of Union and Progress party) and the Liberals as revealed in many controversies in the Asiatic garden. He is, no doubt, right in denouncing the reactionary attitude lately assumed by the so-called "Liberals," who are more intent on "securing their own status as the ruling class" than on training and educating the masses of what, being Mohammedan, is essentially a democratic society; but it is possible to overshoot the mark in upholding the policy of the Committee, and we confess we should like to see the Young Turks cleared of the charges brought against them in regard to the disarming of Macedonia and the suppression of the Albanians. It is sad, indeed, to read the description of the starved and broken condition of the Turkish Army of the West on its return to Asia after these exploits; but it needs more than showing the well-known defects of the Albanians—the Irish of the Balkans—to excuse Javid Pasha's admittedly "ruthless" campaign. "Thank God, Turkey is now quit of them," exclaims Mr. Pickthall, and we cordially echo his thanksgiving; but we wish the latest scenes of Turkish intervention had been less bloody.

However, it is to be hoped that the Young Turks have now realized the futility of their centralized Ottomanizing policy. At all events, the recent war has considerably restricted their opportunities in this direction; but it is still more earnestly to be hoped that they will not try this discredited policy on their Arab subjects. Their chief objects, as Mr. Pickthall urges, should now be education and the training of the whole nation in local self-government. Constitutions and magniloquent views bulk large in European eyes, but what is really wanted is gradual reform. Mr. Pickthall is very hopeful. The Turks, he says,

"possess a gift of management, and are at present making giant strides towards that 'efficiency' which Europeans generally deem the highest good. They have accepted once for all the point of view of Europe, and are using every effort to live up to it. All they ask is leave to work out their own problems and advance to modern progress in the way they understand.... Turkey is the present head of a progressive movement extending throughout Asia and North Africa. She is also the one hope of the Islamic world.... During the six months I spent in Turkey it was my good fortune to know many of these children of the new régime, or my outlook on the future of that country and of El Islam would not have been so hopeful as it is. Strict Muslims without superstition, they are growing up in love with duty, proud of their burden of responsibility, devoted to their country beyond words, tolerant of all beliefs that do not savour of sedition, thoughtful, self-reliant, trustworthy.... To-day the land is free and bent on progress, and I find no excuse for continued scorn of it."

To many this will seem the language of exaggeration; but then Mr. Pickthall knows, and they do not. There lies the difference.

The Reformation in Germany. By Henry C. Vedder. (Macmillan & Co., 12s. 6d. net.)

PROF. VEDDER "frankly confesses" that he is "inspired by the older idea of history, now unfashionable, of furnishing the reader a logical clue to guide him through the labyrinth of accumulated fact." Perhaps the idea has not been so generally abandoned as he thinks, and perhaps also he has not quite succeeded in the task which his publishers attribute to him, of being the first writer "in the English language, at least, to interpret the religious struggle of the sixteenth century in terms of economics." We do not, indeed, find much originality in the Professor's account of the Reformation, though there is much painstaking study of authorities (chiefly Luther's own writings) in his book. He might certainly have remembered, by the way, that Luther, whom he is always calling a monk, was not a monk at all, nor were the Franciscans and Dominicans monks either, as he thinks. Stubbs would have taught him that, and other matters, which might have made him view the German Reformation with more clarity.

It is for no novelty of details, or even of presentation, that we must look in Prof. Vedder's book. It is rather for a certain independence of judgment, meting out justice to Pope and Emperor, Luther and Erasmus, soldier and reformer—a justice which is, on the whole, even-handed. "Was Erasmus right? Was Luther wrong? We may answer both of these questions affirmatively," says Prof. Vedder; but then he goes on to show that he does not really mean to do anything of the kind. One feels it would do him good to read Dr. Hartmann Grisar. His independent judgment needs more facts to play upon than it has as yet acquired. We may illustrate this by briefly examining the conclusions in which he sums up the results of his study.

He dwells upon the complexity of the German Reformation, the fact that the Latin nations rather than the German originated the movement for reform, and that in Germany itself it was the political forces and social ferment rather than religious fervour which carried it to success. Yet the emphatically religious side of the Reformation must not be forgotten—the protest against formalism and a sacerdotal system, the substitution of personal responsibility and individualism often quite unchecked. The individual played a great part. "Even the hero-worship is justified by facts—that is to say, by part of the facts." Prof. Vedder finds in the leaders a genius for religion, a consistent seeking of simplicity, and "a firmer trust in God than the Catholic Church encouraged or even permitted." But with equal candour he adds that "their great defect was that, laying their emphasis chiefly on a right relation between man and God, they regarded as far less important a right relation between man and man." Then

at last he states explicitly his economic interpretation. The ethical teaching of the Church made her the foe of capitalism: "Capitalism needed a free hand if it was to develop; therefore down with the Church." Thus the cities approved the reformers' action, and fought to get rid of the monastic corporations which had control of so much capital. The Reformation was the triumph of the middle class. This, by the way, is to some extent true in Germany, but the reverse of the truth in France and in Scotland. The knights and the peasants suffered by the Reformation; both in fact, says Dr. Vedder, were ruined.

His views may be summarized thus. The Reformation from several aspects was a failure. It was a perversion of the Renaissance; if it freed the world from tradition, it bound it (as Lessing said) with the more intolerable yoke of the letter. Its devotees followed Luther and Calvin far more slavishly than Catholics had followed Augustine and Jerome. Its interpretation of Scripture was "freakish and inconsistent," and "discredited the movement with all thinking men." It was incapable of understanding the idea of a progressive revelation. Thus it did little for religious liberty. Nor was it a great ethical force. It never really recovered the teaching of Jesus. It was the Anabaptists who did that. One sees where one is when one comes to this; but Prof. Vedder adds that the chief difference between the Anabaptists and the Lutherans is that the former failed, while the latter succeeded.

What, then, is the result of it all? The opening of a Pandora box; the creation of a Frankenstein (so far as we understand the Professor, he has made the old mistake about the monster), and the production and survival of a new spirit. So the book is dedicated to the "Prophet of a New Reformation."

In spite of these sparkling conclusions the book has not a few merits, and the appendixes, which give Luther's theses, Tetzels statements and indulgences, and the documents of different Councils, will be distinctly useful to young students.

The King's Council in England during the Middle Ages. By James Fosdick Baldwin. (Oxford, Clarendon Press, 18s. net.)

WRITING in his Preface from memory, Prof. Baldwin quotes a recent author as saying "the history of the King's Council cannot be written." The actual remark was quite different, but the volume before us is a triumphant refutation of this particular proposition. In it the author has given us a complete study of the history and operations of the King's Council from its first appearance to the reign of Henry VIII.; he has worked over all the material collected and arranged by earlier students, has even added to it by his own researches, and has indicated new sources from which further information may be

obtained. The book is one of the most important constitutional studies of recent years, suggestive and well informed, and though it is not to be expected that its conclusions will be accepted in their entirety, it is one that will take a permanent place in historical libraries.

The only recent work touching on the history of the King's Council is one in which, Prof. Baldwin says, "the editor has not availed himself of the latest information." We confess that, with the exceptions noted above, we have been unable to find in this work any information bearing on the subject of the earlier writer which was not referred to by him. But as one chapter of this work is devoted to a refutation of some views there put forward, it may be worth while to examine the point at some length. Prof. Baldwin insists strongly on the essential unity of the King's Council, and with great justice; Mr. Steele laid down a distinction, after a certain epoch, between the ordinary Council and a Great Council. The former works forward, and notes the similarities; the latter finds in Stuart and Tudor times two distinct bodies with different functions, and, looking backward, finds these differences in earlier meetings of Councils. Prof. Baldwin looks for his precedents to French constitutional methods; Mr. Steele finds his analogies in Ireland and Scotland.

Now in Ireland the three bodies—the King's Council, Great Councils, and Parliaments—undoubtedly existed in mediæval times; the Irish *Modus Tenendi*, which Mr. Steele has printed in its entirety for the first time, and authenticated so far as to show that it was received by the State as a genuine document, proves that conclusively. In Scotland, the constitution of which was founded on English models (though with a constant tendency to diverge), the same three bodies existed: the Secret Council, Conventions of Estates (which were Great Councils), and Parliaments. Of the three nations, the true development of the King's Council can be best observed in Ireland, for in England, as in Scotland, its functions were often overlaid by those of a Council of Regency. In our country this was the case for large portions of the reigns of Henry III., Edward II., Richard II., and Henry VI.; in Scotland from James I. to James VI. the sovereign was nearly always a minor; while in Ireland the continuity of the King's Council from its first formation was unbroken, and its development *pari passu* with that of England ensured by its constant correspondence with the English Chancery and Council. The indisputable existence of a Great Council in Ireland under the Plantagenets lends some support to the statements of the English chancery clerks of the time that such councils were held in this country.

Against these statements Prof. Baldwin properly points out that we have only one oath for the King's Council, and that this oath is the criterion which marks off a Councillor from the ordinary person called in to give advice. He also points

out that the records of these so-called Great Councils are entered in the Privy Council Registers, often without any distinction from ordinary meetings of the Council. The first of these objections is weighty, but the argument from silence is inconclusive, and would often apply to mediæval meetings of Parliament; the second ignores the fact that Conventions of Estates are entered in the Scottish Privy Council Register, and Great Councils in the Irish Privy Council Registers, as they occur in order of date, mixed up with ordinary Council meetings. We do not overlook Prof. Baldwin's very pertinent point as to the change in the mode of summons to Councils, but it does not seem to us of sufficient importance to justify the assumption that these assemblies—which did things that the King's Council did not feel itself competent to do, which included persons who were not members of the King's Council, and which were called by the chancery clerks of the time Great Councils—should be denied a separate existence. We should like to know from the author what name he would give to the assembly of 1496.

Prof. Baldwin's mistaken note on the *Modus Tenendi* is due in part to his excessive devotion to French critics and French models for the Council, and partly to his predecessor's method of merely stating facts and expecting his readers to draw the conclusions from them. The *Modus* was obviously first drawn up for use in Ireland; the mention of proctors for the clergy in Parliament, an institution peculiar to Ireland, is sufficient to show this, while the king's serjeants were, normally, members of the King's Council there. It is not impossible to assign an approximate date for its fabrication from the quarrels with the Lieutenant of Ireland as to his presence in Parliament during the early years of Richard II.'s reign. The earliest English form known is manifestly late in Richard's reign, as shown by the mention of York as a city and county with London (Hardy's text is quite untrustworthy), and was probably brought in as a weapon in the Parliamentary struggles of the period, as the traditions of the Tudor and Stuart Parliamentarians assert.

Returning to the main subject of the book, we are glad to pay our tribute to the way in which Prof. Baldwin has handled the difficult questions of the relationship of the Council to the Exchequer, the Chancery, and Parliament. Doubtless there are many enigmas for future constitutional students to puzzle over, whole tracts of the history of the Council to be built up from scanty materials, and conclusions which need revision; but, all reservations made, the author has mapped out a new and untilled field in masterly and complete outline. We note the addition of an excellent Index and some good facsimiles.

R. L. S. By Francis Watt. (Methuen & Co., 6s. net.)

OF the making of books about Stevenson there is literally no end. It shows, for one thing, that the croakers who told us some years ago that he was already a spent force in literature were, to say the least, somewhat out of their reckoning. No doubt a considerable part of the interest maintained in Stevenson is due to the attractive personality of the man himself. But there is something more than that. As we said in reviewing the four volumes of his 'Letters' published in 1911, Stevenson's appeal was essentially aristocratic, to his fellow-craftsmen above all, and after them to the small world of real lovers of letters. To the end he remained the cult of a select circle, and will go on being so. His name and fame, we can still affirm, "will no more die than Spenser's."

Mr. Francis Watt's volume has some defects of detail, especially in regard to the topography of the Pentland district, with which Stevenson's early life was directly connected. Here Mr. Watt shows himself rather casual than intimate. He spells Caerketton without the first *e*, and adds a superfluous *i* to Carnethy. The *lang whang* of the Lanark Road he calls the "cauld whang"; and the Buckstone, familiar to Stevenson, is described as a "rock," whereas it is simply a three- or four-foot upright stone built into a garden wall. The Kel-stane is spelt "Kel-stain"; but that may be a misprint, like "Ramsey" (of Ochtertyre) for Ramsay (p. 150), and "Grindley" for Grindlay (p. 196). What, however, is to be said for the statement (p. 81) that "not a stone remains" of Bavelaw Castle? The reviewer has passed the Castle scores of times in Pentland tramps during the last two years, and recently has had the mortification of seeing it "restored" in modern iconoclastic fashion.

It is a pity that these and other slips should have disfigured the book, but they do not detract from its essential value as a work which, for certain of its features, must have a distinct place in Stevenson literature. The author gives wisely little more than an outline of Stevenson's career, for its details are sufficiently familiar. His plan (and he carries it out, on the whole, very successfully and judiciously) is to dissect the Stevenson literary product, with a view to showing its diverse artistic, human, and, so to speak, geographical interests. Thus we find Stevenson's Edinburgh—the real Edinburgh—recalled and contrasted with the Edinburgh of his works. The Pentlands again, with which Stevenson began and (in 'Weir of Hermiston') practically ended his professional career, are studied in the same way; the Lothians too, about which we hear a good deal in his books. Similarly, we are taken with Stevenson to England, to the Continent, to America, and to the South Seas, the object in every case being mainly to bring out the connexion between the actual life and the

writings. All this was worth doing, and it is well done.

Further chapters treat, with insight and sympathy, of Stevenson as letter-writer and playwright; of the women in his works (an old question for discussion); and of his religion. As regards the last-named we do not wholly agree with Mr. Watt; but the matter cannot be debated in a review, and perhaps should not be debated at all, at any rate without a clear understanding of what "religion" exactly implies.

The book is furnished with a good Index, and has for frontispiece a portrait of Stevenson which will be new to many by that distinguished photographer A. G. Dew Smith.

Italian Yesterdays. By Mrs. Hugh Fraser. (Hutchinson & Co., 16s. net.)

ONE is not surprised to read that Mrs. Fraser found it no easy matter to choose a suitable title for her latest volume, seeing that these 'Italian Yesterdays' range from Romulus and Remus to her own reminiscences. Yet the fact that even in her day the Via Urbana, the street where Tullia is said to have forced her charioteer to drive over the dead body of her father, Servius Tullius, was still known as the Vicolo Scelerato, almost links the two periods.

The first chapters are largely concerned with the history of the early Church in Italy and, above all, in Rome, and therefore possess a unity of their own. Our author tells us of the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul, of Gratian and Alaric, and gives good accounts of St. Cecilia and that unfortunate mediæval saint Eustochia, among many other interesting stories. Mrs. Fraser even provides a life of Count Mattioli, who, she believes, was the Man in the Iron Mask. Her last chapters she devotes to Marco Polo, Carlo Zeno, and other Venetian heroes, and she has something to say of Verona and its tyrants. But she might have included among the many important events of which the famous amphitheatre there has been the scene, Eleonora Duse's performance of Juliet at the age of fourteen by the light of a few lanterns, the first artistic triumph of that great actress.

For all its variety, we doubt whether this volume will enjoy the popularity of its predecessors. Though Mrs. Fraser is too good a story-teller ever to be anything but eminently readable, it is only when touched with the glamour of her own memories that these gleanings from Italian history attain to the full life of the earlier recollections of a diplomatist's wife. For those who, like our author, were so fortunate as to grow up amid all that was best in the artistic and social world of papal Rome, the Eternal City lost something that can never be recovered when it became the capital of the kingdom of Italy. We get a glimpse of this vanished world in the description of the open table once kept in the Villa Borghese, or in the sight that met the eyes of Mrs.

Fraser and her sister when their carriage took a short cut across the open Campagna to the appointed meeting-place for the artists' festival on a brilliant morning in May:—

"Suddenly, on the skyline of a low ridge just ahead of us, a towering car moved into view, drawn by four white oxen, whose gilded horns were hung with wreaths of roses. The heavy wheels were smothered in roses too, scattering pink and white petals as they revolved over the newly sprung grass. The sides of the car were all of fretted gold, catching the sun in a hundred lovely scrolls and arabesques; raised high on a gold and ivory throne sat a Roman emperor, his white robes covered with jewels, the laurel-wreath on his brow. . . . Behind him two black slaves held huge fans of white feathers over his head to protect him from the heat; at his feet, on a swirl of panther-skins, sat his favourite of the moment, a beautiful little Greek woman, her golden hair crowned with roses, her bare arms covered with bracelets and gleaming like marble in the sun, while a score or more of lovely girls in classical draperies leaned over the gilt balustrades that sank, tier below tier, from the sides of the throne down to the upper edge of the rose-wreathed wheels. Black slaves in scarlet tunics led the oxen."

This was followed by a long procession of cars nearly as splendid as the first, the ox-drivers alone not being as motionless as statues.

"It was a dream of Imperial times, too surprising to be real, till, as the first car passed close to us, one of the girls began to laugh and flung a handful of rose-petals in my face."

It is this life of her own girlhood, when energetic young ladies might climb to the highest arch of the ruins of the Baths of Caracalla and lie there basking in the sun on a stone that rocked beneath them, which Mrs. Fraser has done so much to recapture for us in her writings on Italy, and the pages she devotes to it here are far the best in the book. The descriptions of the street cries of Rome, of her birthday in her beautiful home at the Villa Negrone where the railway station now stands, of the picnic parties at Egeria's Grotto, or of the lonely villa with its wonderful nightingales which she discovered far out in the Campagna, have all the charm of her earlier recollections. Interesting, too, are the stories of her encounters with the wild cattle and sheepdogs of the Campagna. The writer was once informed on good authority that the best way to quiet the latter was to sit down (since that is the position in which they usually see their masters) and pretend to throw stones at them. But he could never summon up courage to try the experiment.

Full as are Mrs. Fraser's reminiscences, Marion Crawford could have added much to what his sister has told us of the Italy of his day had he lived to write his memoirs. Here is a story of his which is worth preserving. One evening he was standing by the piano in a well-known Roman salon, almost alone, listening to Liszt, who was playing quietly to himself. The other guests were in the middle of the room gathered round Mommsen, the lion of the evening. He was discussing Roman history with Gregorovius, who resembled a

typical heavy Lutheran pastor in appearance. Suddenly the argument grew heated, and as Crawford drew near he heard the Voltaire-like Mommsen flash out: "Aber, Herr Gregorovius, sind Sie schon früher in Rom gewesen?" Gregorovius, who had spent nearly half his life in Rome, was completely reduced to silence.

Cambridge Medieval History. Planned by J. B. Bury. Edited by H. M. Gwatkin and J. P. Whitney.—Vol. II. *The Rise of the Saracens and the Foundation of the Western Empire.* With Volume of Maps. (Cambridge University Press, 20s. net.)

AN incidental remark of the editors, not altogether justified, concerning the wholly admirable chapter on Roman law, sent us back to Gibbon, whose second period of the 'Decline and Fall' coincides almost exactly with that covered by this volume. The comparison between the two works, overwhelming as are the differences between them from the point of view of historical scholarship, is not entirely in favour of the new as against the old. No one at the present day can hope to embrace the whole field of historical study with sufficient knowledge of its details to embark on Gibbon's task, but we may regret the loss of that unity of aim and treatment and style which makes his great work one of the classics of our literature. It is to be hoped that the editors in future volumes will expand the Preface, in which they give a somewhat summary account of the book, into a more connected study of the nature of what was once called the philosophy of history.

The observer usually finds in his subject little more than what he brings to its observation. An eighteenth-century draughtsman saw and preserved the noble proportions and sweep of Gothic architecture, but utterly ignored the myriad beautiful details which are so great a part of our pleasure in the same building; the student of history unconsciously selects those aspects of the facts before him which appeal to his personal predilections and the general sentiment of his period. Gibbon found his ideal in Augustan Rome—a dream-city of marble and classicism, an ideal strangely compounded of the toga and the periwig, of Virgil and Lucretius and of Malherbe and Corneille; and he sought to discover how this ideal had fallen to pieces and left the world in darkness till the new dawn of the days of the Medici and the full sunlight of the age of Louis Quatorze. To him Byzantium was the China of the West; the art and literature of the Middle Ages, the formless babblings of barbarians. Incapable himself of enthusiasm or belief, he saw and described in the records of the past "little more than the crimes, follies, and misfortunes of mankind."

To us, whose minds and literature are saturated with mediæval influences, this standpoint is entirely foreign. The continuity of history appears in another aspect than that in which Gibbon saw it. Byzantium, like China, has been redis-

covered. We recognize with gratitude the part it played as the bulwark of Christendom for seven centuries, and we are beginning to appreciate its services as a nursing mother to the arts in the dark ages of European barbarism. Imperial Rome itself is as much an episode in the history of civilization as its Eastern sister; Greek thoughts, Greek methods, even in the full tide of the mediæval Renaissance, gave it its freshness and strength as they move us to-day.

Thus the reader in this volume surveys the welter of barbarism outside Byzantium with an eye for the promise of the new-ordered civilization which is to come, and the shaping of the new powers that are to contend with it. For the first time the rise of Islam takes a place in the chain of events, no longer an accident of the appearance of the hero as prophet. For the first time the spread of the Slav westward and southward from his swampy fastnesses is traced out, and the results of modern linguistics pressed into service in a history as fascinating as a novel. For the first time the story of Visigoth Spain is written for the general reader. There is no period of history of which the average student knows less than that covered by this volume, or to which the scholarship of the last twenty years has contributed so much.

The book itself rarely falls below a high level. Perhaps the general impression left by the chapters on Byzantine history is a little too sombre, too forgetful of the services of that magnificent bureaucracy which, in the face of enemies outside and its emperors at home, held up the empire for centuries from its fall; perhaps we might see an exaggerated Teutonism in a section on Germanic Heathendom which is devoted to Scandinavian mythology, and does not mention the fact that the names of the German deities in Germany are most of them Celtic; but differences of view such as these are inevitable, and serve but to bring into relief the excellence of the important chapters.

The Bibliography runs to over 100 pages, and the atlas is indispensable.

The Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri.
Translated by E. M. Shaw. (Constable & Co., 8s. 6d. net.)

THE appearance of a new verse-translation of the greatest Christian epic inevitably suggests such questions as, For what class of readers is it intended? and, Does it possess merit enough to make the labour of its production worth while? The answer to the second question is not easy in this case, for it depends in some measure on the answer to the first; and on that point the translator in her short Preface fails to enlighten us. It can hardly be meant for those who are unfamiliar with the poem and cannot read it in the original, for it does not contain a single note, nor even any marginal identification of the many personages whom Dante does not

expressly name. But if we may take it as meant for those who have deeply studied the poem, we are entitled to look for a higher poetic standard than we expect in a version like Longfellow's, which from its wealth of illustrative matter is evidently written for the beginner.

Mrs. Shaw tells us, strangely enough, that "there was no labour in the producing of it," though she admits a certain amount in "the finishing and perfecting" of the verse. She means, we presume, that it was a labour of love, and its general character supports that explanation. There is a smoothness in the verse which in some passages rises to dignity, and she understands the art of varying the cadence of the sentences so as to avoid stiffness. She is anxious to keep close to the meaning, and in the more scholastic discourses of the 'Paradiso' this effort—which is not always successful—detracts from the quality of the verse. She acknowledges a deep debt to Cary's translation, and we think that she owes as much to Longfellow's, though she does not expressly admit it. Her version is not so literal as the latter, but it is less uniformly prosaic; and she has taken much pains with the beautiful similes with which the poem abounds. She makes an unnecessary apology for not attempting a rhymed translation. Previous efforts to render the poem in its original *terza rima* have mostly been conspicuous failures, and this not so much for Mrs. Shaw's too comprehensive reason that "English is not a rhyming language," as because it is far poorer in rhymes than the more melodious Italian. The danger of blank verse is that it too easily sinks to the level of prose, and where the translator yields, as Mrs. Shaw often does, to the temptation of ending lines with relatives, prepositions, auxiliary verbs, and even conjunctions, the descent to prose becomes rapid.

There are some mistakes which a little competent advice might have prevented, as errors of quantity, especially in classical names: "Orpheus" is extended to three syllables, and "Sicheus" contracted to two; while "Caina"—the division in the ninth circle of the 'Inferno'—is dissyllabic in one place and trisyllabic in another. A more irritating liberty is the dissyllabic value sometimes given to such words as "hour," "fire," "wire," where the metre requires it, though they are often used properly as monosyllables. In general, Mrs. Shaw avoids the snare of introducing otiose adjectives or sentences on metrical grounds; but in Canto IV. of the 'Inferno' the allusion to Claudius Ptolemy the astronomer is unfortunately amplified by the weak line

Who knew to foster Alexandria,

which can only apply to a different person, Ptolemy Philadelphus. Taken as a whole, the translation is not without merit, though it has some serious defects.

Wild Game in Zambezia. By R. C. F. Maugham. (John Murray, 12s. net.)

MR. MAUGHAM has most skilfully steered a middle course between the Scylla of mere big-game shooting "shop" and the Charybdis of a scientific treatise. Those acquainted with his previous work will not be surprised to find that he has produced a volume which proves both attractive to the lay mind and valuable to the sportsman. The treatment is pleasingly unusual in two respects: technical terms are entirely absent, and we have interesting descriptions of the habits—not the slaughter—of the countless animals, great and small, that dwell in mountain, swamp, and jungle on either side of the great Zambezi river.

The author denounces in forcible language the wholesale butchery that has wiped out entire families of African fauna. Killing for killing's sake is an abomination, and he is a powerful advocate of more numerous and better-managed game reserves:—

"To my mind a game reserve should be conducted more or less upon the lines of a carefully tended botanical garden."

There are great possibilities about the new sport that a few daring souls have recently indulged in. We can readily imagine that in "hunting with a camera in place of a rifle, the excitement and difficulty are greater." After all, to quote Mr. Radclyffe Dugmore, whose wonderful photographs of wild animals in their natural surroundings are still fresh in our memory, "the life of any animal, be it bird or beast, is far more interesting than its dead body."

A most informing discussion on the tsetse fly brings us to the various methods that have been suggested for eradicating "sleeping-sickness." The author makes out a good case against Dr. Warrington Yorke's proposition that the main reservoir of infection for the parasite of this fearful malady would be removed if the African fauna, small and large, were driven back (*i.e.* extirpated) from the regions inhabited by man. Besides pointing out the almost insuperable difficulties of any attempt to do this effectively, Mr. Maugham puts in a plea for the big game, based on twenty years' experience and observation in fly-infested regions. There are enormous tsetse-fly belts in Portuguese East Africa where the pest has existed for many years, but where there is "not the smallest trace of game nor recollection of its occurrence even among the more elderly of the native inhabitants." What we had been rudely told was "pampered softness" inclines us cordially to agree with the advice to avoid "roughing it" as far as possible. It is a relief to find a writer who argues in favour of comfort and decency in camp life on grounds of health and expediency.

We leave 'Wild Game in Zambezia' with reluctance. It takes a high place in the literature of travel and wild life.

BOOKS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

THEOLOGY.

Alexander (A. B. D.), CHRISTIANITY AND ETHICS, 2/6 net. Duckworth

In the "Studies in Theology" Series. The writer aims at presenting "a brief but comprehensive view of the Christian conception of the moral life." There is a Bibliography, and the book is divided into four sections, entitled 'Postulates,' 'Personality,' 'Character,' and 'Conduct.'

Barelay (Florence L.), THE GOLDEN CENSER, 1/6 net. Hodder & Stoughton

Eight short studies on intercessory prayer.

Eucken (Rudolf), CAN WE STILL BE CHRISTIANS? Authorized Translation by Lucy Judge Gibson, 3/6 net. Black

A consideration of the attitude to be adopted regarding Christianity.

Field (Dorothy), THE RELIGION OF THE SIKHS, "The Wisdom of the East Series," 2/ net. John Murray

The author considers in turn the teaching of the Sikh Gurus, the religious origins of Sikhism, and the doctrines of the Sikhs, and in the last chapter discusses the hymns from the Granth Sahib and the Granth of the Tenth Guru.

Patrik (John), CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA, 7/6 net. Blackwood

The Croall Lecture for 1899-1900, with Appendix and Bibliography. In preparing the book for publication the writer has used O. Stählin's text of Clement's works.

Webster (F. S.), TRUSTING AND TRIUMPHING, 2/ net. R.T.S.

A collection of sermons.

Weinel (Heinrich) and Widgery (Alban G.), JESUS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AND AFTER, 10/6 net. Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark

A study, mainly historical, based on Dr. Weinle's 'Jesus im 19 Jahrhundert,' and revised and brought up to date.

LAW.

Hardy (G. L.), THE LAW AND PRACTICE OF BANKRUPTCY, 2/6 net. Effingham Wilson

A practical handbook dealing with Acts of Parliament, Bankruptcy and other Rules, with references to cases.

POETRY.

Courthope (W. J.), SELECTIONS FROM THE EPIGRAMS OF M. VALERIUS MARTIALIS, translated or imitated in English Verse, 3/6 net. John Murray

Containing 'An Epistle of Thanks to the Rev. H. Montague Butler, D.D., on receiving a Copy of his Address (to the Classical Association) "On the Value of Translations from the Classics,"' a 'Note on the Literary Character of the Flavian Ages in Ancient Rome,' translations and imitations of Martial, printed with the originals, and notes on the Latin.

Kennedy (James), SCOTTISH AND AMERICAN POEMS, 4/ net. Oliphant & Anderson

A new edition.

Moore (T. Sturge), THE SEA IS KIND, 6/ net. Grant Richards

Twenty-one of these poems have not been printed before; others have appeared in *The English Review*, *The New Statesman*, *The Poetry Review*, and other papers.

Patterson (Clara Burdett), THE DRYAD, 3/6 net. Constable

A long piece in blank verse.

Post (The), Lightning of Rhythm and Rhyme, Flashing from Time to Time, Vol. I. No. 1, by Panéumolpos, 3d. Farnassus Press, 280, Regent St.

The author calls these pieces—none of which is longer than six lines—"Fireballs." They include 'Helios,' 'Pantheon,' 'Grandiloquence,' and 'Idolatry.'

Webster (Alphonsus W.), THE INWARD LIGHT, AND OTHER VERSES, 2/6 net. Headley

Miscellaneous verses, including 'Makers of Music,' 'Balm in Gilead,' 'A School for Angels,' and 'Venice, 1513.'

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Congress Library: A LIST OF AMERICAN DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS PRINTED IN 1912, prepared by Charles A. Flagg, 30c. Washington, Govt. Printing Office

Containing an alphabetic list of theses printed in 1912, classified lists, a Subject Index, and a list of Doctors, arranged under Universities.

English Catalogue of Books (The) for 1913.

This is the seventy-seventh issue of 'The English Catalogue,' and contains the titles, under authors or subjects, of books published last year, as well as some received too late for inclusion in the former issue.

Mash (Maurice H. B.), CATALOGUING CODES, a Comparison of the "Cutter" and "A.L.A. and L.A." Rules, 6d. net. Stanley Paul

This paper is reprinted from *The Librarian*.

Peddle (R. A.), CONSPECTUS INCUNABULORUM: Part II. C—G, 15/ net. Grafton

An index catalogue of fifteenth-century books, with references to Hain's 'Repertorium,' Copinger's 'Supplement,' Proctor's 'Index,' Pellechet's 'Catalogue,' Campbell's 'Annales,' and other bibliographies.

PHILOSOPHY.

Wilson (Floyd B.), THE MAN OF TO-MORROW: HUMAN EVOLUTION, impelling Man onward to God-Consciousness, "The New Thought Library," 3/6 net. Rider

In his Prologue the author states that it is his aim to "present what my studies and experiences have taught me as to ways and methods of using the Key to unlock the slumbering powers within ourselves."

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

Adams (Ephraim Douglass), THE POWER OF IDEALS IN AMERICAN HISTORY, 5/ net. Milford, for Yale University Press

The author discusses the basic principles of American citizenship and the power of idealism in American political life, and protests against the materialistic conception of history for America.

Burns (William J.), THE MASKED WAR, THE Story of a Peril that threatened the United States, by the Man who uncovered the Dynamite Conspirators and sent them to Jail, 7/6 net. Hodder & Stoughton

In this volume the author sets forth the evidence he gathered against John J. McNamara, James B. McNamara, and "those of the International Bridge and Structural Iron Workers who betrayed the workers of that union to the Anarchists."

Butler (A. J.), BABYLON OF EGYPT, a Study in the History of Old Cairo, 4/6 net. Oxford, Clarendon Press

In this monograph the author sets out to prove "that for many centuries before the conquest Babylon was the recognized name of a town or city of great importance: that the term was so understood at the time of the conquest: and that this usage prevailed for some centuries after the conquest."

Collectanea Franciscana, edited by A. G. Little, M. R. James, H. M. Bannister. Aberdeen University Press

This is the fifth of the "Franciscan Studies" published by the British Society, and contains a study of 'Brother William of England' and a 'Description of a Franciscan Manuscript,' by Mr. Little; 'The Library of the Grey Friars of Hereford,' by Dr. James; 'A Short Notice of some Manuscripts of the Cambridge Friars,' by the Rev. H. M. Bannister; and 'Records of the Franciscan Province of England,' also by Mr. Little. There are four reproductions from MSS., Addenda, and an Index.

Fleischmann (Hector), AN UNKNOWN SON OF NAPOLEON (COUNT LÉON), translated by A. R. Allinson, 10/6 net. Nash

A biography of Count Léon, with Appendixes, Index, and illustrations.

Hare (Christopher), MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ITALIAN REFORMATION, 12/6 net. Stanley Paul

Biographical studies of some leading Italian Protestants.

Hutchinson's History of the Nations, PART V., edited by Walter Hutchinson, 7d. net.

This part contains a further instalment of Sir Richard Temple's article on India.

Lee (Elizabeth), OUIDA: A MEMOIR, 10/6 net. Fisher Unwin

An account of the novelist's life and career, told chiefly from her letters, with chapters on Ouida as critic, novelist, humanitarian, and social reformer.

Phillips (Walter Allison), THE CONFEDERATION OF EUROPE, 7/6 net. Longmans

Six lectures delivered in the University Schools, Oxford, on 'A Study of the European Alliance, 1813-1823, as an Experiment in the International Organization of Peace.'

Sandars (Mary F.), HONORÉ DE BALZAC, his Life and Writings, 5/ net. Stanley Paul

A reprint, with a new Introduction by Dr. W. L. Courtney. See notice in *Athen.*, April 22, 1905, p. 493.

Tilby (A. Wyatt), SOUTH AFRICA, 1480-1913, 7/6 net. Constable

This is the sixth volume in the author's series of "The English People Overseas," and brings to a close the first part of his history, which treats "in the main of the founding of the English type of civilisation."

Tout (Prof. T. F.), THE PRESENT STATE OF MEDIEVAL STUDIES IN GREAT BRITAIN. Milford, for the British Academy

The Presidential Address delivered to the Medieval Section of the Intermediate Historical Congress in London last April. It is reprinted from the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, vol. vi.

Wertenbaker (Thomas J.), VIRGINIA UNDER THE STUARTS, 1607-1688, 6/6 net. Milford, for Princeton University Press

A history of Virginia from the founding of Jamestown to the Revolution of 1688.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVEL.

Cox (J. Charles), GLOUCESTERSHIRE, "Little Guides," 2/6 net. Methuen

In his Introduction the author deals generally with such subjects as the physical features of the county, its flora and fauna, history, worthies, and antiquities, and then describes each parish in alphabetical order. There are illustrations, maps, plans, a Bibliography, and an Index.

Terry (T. Philip), TERRY'S JAPANESE EMPIRE, INCLUDING KOREA AND FORMOSA, 21/ net. Constable

A practical guide-book for travellers, giving a detailed account of the country, and descriptions of the Trans-Siberian Railway and the chief ocean routes to Japan. The book is fully illustrated with maps and plans.

SOCIOLOGY.

Jessopp (the late Augustus), ENGLAND'S PEASANTRY, AND OTHER ESSAYS, 7/6 net. Unwin

Studies of rural life in Norfolk.

ECONOMICS.

Mallock (W. H.), SOCIAL REFORM AS RELATED TO REALITIES AND DELUSIONS, an Examination of the Increase and Distribution of Wealth from 1801 to 1910, 6/ net. John Murray

The author examines records relating to the amount and distribution of incomes at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and compares them with recent statistics.

Smart (William), AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY OF VALUE ON THE LINES OF MENGER, WIESER, AND BÖHM-BAWERK, 1/6 net. Macmillan

A third edition.

EDUCATION.

Perse Playbooks: No. 4, FIRST-FRUIT OF THE PLAY METHOD IN PROSE, 3/ net. Cambridge, Hefter

The book contains a Preface by Dr. W. H. D. Rouse, and an Essay on the Method by Mr. H. Caldwell Cook, followed by examples of the boys' work.

PHILOLOGY.

New English Dictionary: Shastri-Shyster, by Henry Bradley, 5/ net. Oxford, Clarendon Press

Another section of Vol. VIII.

Soane (E. B.), GRAMMAR OF THE KURMANJI OR KURDISH LANGUAGE, 8/6 net. Luzac

The sixth volume in the "Oriental Grammar Series."

Wilde (Archer), SOUNDS AND SIGNS, a Criticism of the Alphabet, with Suggestions for Reform, 4/6 net. Constable

The author discusses some reasons for reform in spelling, type, and alphabet, and also proposes improvements in the two last-named, independently of spelling reform.

SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Arnold's Literary Reading-Books: MASTERFOLK, SCENES FROM THE LIVES OF FAMOUS MEN, as described by Great Writers, 1/6 net. Short illustrated extracts.

Box (G. H.), THE SECOND BOOK OF KINGS, 1/6 net. Cambridge University Press

Containing an Introduction on Hebrew historical writings, the authorship, date, and sources of 2 Kings, and the chronology; the text of the Revised Version with foot-notes, and an Index of Subjects.

Chaucer (Geoffrey), PARLEMENT OF FOULES, edited by C. M. Drennan, 2/6 net. University Tutorial Press

The text, which follows in the main G 94. 27 in the Cambridge University Library, is accompanied by an Introduction, notes, and Glossary.

McKay (Herbert), *A CHILD'S BOOK OF ARITHMETIC*, 10d. Methuen
This book is intended for very young children, and gives practical instructions on the subject according to kindergarten methods. It is illustrated by Miss Lilian Fairweather.

Saintsbury (George), *A FIRST BOOK OF ENGLISH LITERATURE*, 1/6. Macmillan
An outline of the development of English literature from the earliest times to the end of the nineteenth century. Appended to the text are an Abstract and Chronological Conspectus and a Glossary of Technical Terms.

PSYCHOLOGY.

Fuller (Sir Bampfylde), *LIFE AND HUMAN NATURE*, 9/ net. John Murray
This work is "an attempt to construct a natural history—or science—of human nature by tracing behaviour of mind or body to impulses which actuate, more or less definitely, all living creatures." The author reviews the material, social, economic, and political development of man, and considers the influence of race and environment.

Mind at Work (The), edited by Geoffrey Rhodes, 3/6 net. Murby
A handbook of applied psychology, with contributions by Dr. Charles Buttar, Mr. E. J. Foley, and Prof. L. L. Bernard.

LITERARY CRITICISM.

Peers (Edgar Allison), *ELIZABETHAN DRAMA AND ITS MAD FOLK*, the Harness Prize Essay for 1913, 3/6 net. Cambridge, Heffer
An essay on the presentation of madness in English comedy and tragedy down to 1642.

Vaughan (C.), *THE INFLUENCE OF ENGLISH POETRY UPON THE ROMANTIC REVIVAL ON THE CONTINENT*, 1/ net. Milford, for the British Academy
The Warton Lecture on English Poetry, delivered last October. It is reprinted from the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, vol. vi.

FICTION.

Allerton (Mark), *THE GIRL ON THE GREEN*, 6/ net. Methuen
See p. 474.

Cody (H. A.), *THE CHIEF OF THE RANGES*, 6/ net. Hodder & Stoughton
See p. 470.

Crawford (Alexander), *THE ALIAS*, 1/ net. Blackwood
A cheap edition.

Edwardes (Tiekner), *TANSY*, 6/ net. Hutchinson
A tale of village life in the South Downs.

Falconer (Lanoe), *MADMOISELLE IXE*, 1/ net. Unwin
The first volume in a cheap edition of the "Pseudonym Library." See notice in *Athen.*, Nov. 8, 1890, p. 622.

Futrelle (Jacques), *BLIND MAN'S BUFF*, 2/ net. Hodder & Stoughton
See p. 470.

Gould (Nat), *A GAMBLE FOR LOVE*, 6/ net. Long
The hero of this novel falls in love with the beautiful widow of an American multi-millionaire, but in order to prove his indifference to her money he affects an attitude of coldness, and hazards great stakes to win her love. There are several descriptions of horse-races, and a mystery regarding the heroine's birth which is slowly unravelled.

Harding (Mrs. Ambrose), *A DAUGHTER OF DEBATE*, 6/ net. Werner Laurie
A story of love and adventure in Dominica, in which the question of "colour" is an important element.

Havens (Munson), *OLD VALENTINES*, a Love Story, 2/6 net. Constable
A pretty tale, in which the hero and heroine face poverty together, and eventually reach prosperity.

Hayden (Eleanor G.), *LOVE THE HARPER*, 6s. Smith & Elder
See p. 468.

Keith (Marian), *THE POT O' GOLD: AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW*, 6/ net. Hodder & Stoughton
A story of some simple-hearted people, mostly Scottish and Irish, living in a country town in Canada.

Lepelletier (Edmond), *MADAME SANS-GENE*, a Romance founded on the Play by Sardou and Moreau, translated from the French and edited by J. A. J. de Villiers, 1/6 net. Greening
One of the volumes in the "Lotus Library."

Locke (W. J.), *THE FORTUNATE YOUTH*, 6/ net. John Lane
See p. 467.

Macnamara (Rachael S.), *THE AWAKENING*, 6/ net. Jenkins
See p. 473.

Marks (Jeannette), *LEVIATHAN*, the Record of a Struggle and a Triumph, 6/ net. Hodder & Stoughton
See p. 472.

Methley (Violet), *THE LOADSTONE*, 6/ net. Hurst & Blackett
A story of adventurous and romantic life in the days of Napoleon.

Norris (Kathleen), *THE TREASURE*. Macmillan
A study of an old-fashioned American matron who resents the efficiency of her maid-of-all-work—"the treasure," who is a graduate of domestic economy—and is shocked by the frankness of her daughter, who proposes to the man she loves.

Pearce (Charles E.), *THE CRIMSON MASCOT*, 6/ net. Stanley Paul
The story of the theft of a crimson pearl and the murder of its owner.

Rita, *JILL-ALL-ALONE*, 6/ net. Stanley Paul
See p. 468.

Salwey (Reginald E.), *THE EDUCATION OF OLIVER HYDE*, 6/ net. Digby & Long
See p. 473.

Straus (Ralph), *THE ORLEY TRADITION*, 6/ net. Methuen
See p. 465.

Tynan (Katharine), *JOHN BULTEEL'S DAUGHTERS*, 6/ net. Smith & Elder
This story concerns the love-affairs of four young women whose social position is endangered by a quixotic action of their father before his marriage.

Wallace (Edgar), *BOSAMBO OF THE RIVER*, 6/ net. Ward & Lock
Mr. Wallace shows in this series of stories the manifold difficulties, and activities of one Sanders, a Colonial Office Commissioner, while governing the various tribes under British protection on the West Coast of Africa.

Wayside Neighbours, by the Author of 'Wayside Lamps', 2/6 net. Longmans
A collection of eleven stories, eight of which are republished from *The Treasury*.

REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

Boy's Own, APRIL, 6d. 4, Bouverie Street
This number contains the first instalment of a tale of the Malay Seas, entitled 'The Black Pearl of Peihoo,' by Mr. S. Portal Hyatt. The articles include 'Insect Photography,' by Mr. Herbert Mace; 'Lacrosse, and How to Play It,' by Mr. J. S. Hutcheon; and 'A Philanthropic "Big Brother": Mr. William Wheatley and his Mission,' by Mr. G. A. Leask.

Champion, MARCH, 3d. net. 21, Old Bailey
Includes 'School Songs of Shrewsbury,' 'All about Ferrets,' and 'Thackeray and Boys.'

Girl's Own Paper and Woman's Magazine, APRIL, 6d. 4, Bouverie Street
The items in this number include 'Household Science in the Universities,' by Mrs. Smedley Maclean; 'Who's Who among the Wild Flowers,' by Mr. Henry Irving; and 'The Problem of Truth,' a short story by Miss Mary Heaton Vorse.

International Theosophical Chronicle, MARCH, 6d. net. 18, Bartlett's Bldgs.

Notable articles in this number are 'Peace and War,' by Mr. John Morgan; 'Parsifal and the Drama,' by Mr. R. Machell; and 'Theosophy,' by Prof. Daniel de Lange.

Irish Review, MARCH, 6d. net. Dublin, 12, D'Olier Street;

London, Simpkin & Marshall
The contents of this issue include an article on the present political situation, entitled 'At the Irish Junction,' by Mr. P. J. Sheridan; an "impression" of 'A New Poet,' Mr. Francis Ledwidge, by Miss Lily Fogarty; and verses by Mr. Thomas MacDonagh, Sir Roger Casement, and others.

Jewish Review, MARCH, 1/6 net. Routledge
The articles in the present issue include 'The Progress of Education in Jewry,' by Mr. Israel Cohen; 'The Observance of the Sabbath and the Festivals,' by Mr. J. Mann; and 'Bacher: a Personal Note,' by Mr. E. N. Adler.

London Quarterly Review, APRIL, 2/6. C. H. Kelly
Notable papers in this number are 'The Unity of the Human Race,' by Dr. A. Caldecott; 'Rabindranath Tagore,' by Mr. E. J. Brailsford; and 'Rajas and their Territories,' by Saint Nihal Singh.

Modern Language Teaching, MARCH, 6d. Black
Includes articles on 'The Germans and their National Hero,' by Mr. M. Körner, and the 'Reform of English Spelling' (concluded), by Mr. C. S. Bremner; also Correspondence, Reviews, and Editorial Notes.

North American Review, MARCH, 1/ net. Heinemann
'Super-Democracy,' by Mr. B. I. Gilman; 'Christianity and Christian Science,' by the Rev. Randolph H. McKim; 'The Sea in the Greek Poets,' by Mr. W. Chase Greene; and 'Some Implications of Bergson's Philosophy,' by Miss L. C. Wilcox, are the most important items this month.

Scribner's Magazine, APRIL, 1/ net. Constable
Col. Roosevelt contributes the first two chapters of 'A Hunter-Naturalist in the Brazilian Wilderness,' illustrated by Mr. Kermit Roosevelt and other members of the expedition; Mr. George E. Woodberry writes of North Africa in an article entitled 'On the Mat,' and Mr. H. G. Dwight on 'Greek Feasts'; and there are other articles, verses, and short stories.

Stitchery, a QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENT to 'The Girl's Own Paper and Woman's Magazine,' No. 7, 3d. 4, Bouverie Street
An illustrated booklet giving patterns of plain and fancy needlework, suggestions for children's clothes, &c.

Sunday at Home, APRIL, 6d. 4, Bouverie Street
The contents include articles on 'Christ in the Home,' by the Rev. Harrington C. Lees, and 'The Earth Awakes,' by Mr. Thomas Cassels, and the first two chapters of 'Harebell's Friend,' a serial story by Miss Amy Le Feuvre.

Windsor Magazine, APRIL, 6d. Ward & Lock
Offers stories by Sir H. Rider Haggard, Miss S. Macnaughtan, and Mr. Eden Phillpotts; and articles on 'The Art of Val C. Prinsep, R.A.,' by Mr. Austin Chester, and 'The Public Record Office,' by Mr. J. G. Black.

GENERAL.

Anecdotes of Pulpit and Parish, collected and arranged by Arthur H. Engelbach, 3/6. Grant Richards
Anecdotes of well-known prelates and others, with an Index.

Begbie (Harold), *THE ORDINARY MAN AND THE EXTRAORDINARY THING*, 1/ net. Hodder & Stoughton
A popular edition.

Caldecott (W. Shaw), *OUTLINE LECTURE ON HEROD'S TEMPLE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT*, 1/ net. C. H. Kelly
This lecture is illustrated by a photograph of the author's model of the Temple.

Catalogue of Valuable Books and Important Illuminated and Other Manuscripts, 2/6. Sotheby
An illustrated catalogue. The sale will take place on April 6th, 7th, and 8th.

PAMPHLETS.

Cantor (Charles), *PARSIFAL*, an Analysis and some Thoughts on the Symbolism, 1/ net. Year-Book Press
A paper on the sources of 'Parsifal' and its allegorical significance.

Holland (Henry Scott), *UNITY IN DIVERSITY*. Oxford, Blackwell
A sermon preached at St. Mary's Church before the University of Oxford last February.

Way of Unity and Peace (The), 1d. Smith & Elder
The purpose of this pamphlet is to appeal to common sense in the present Irish crisis, and to indicate the way to unity.

SCIENCE.

Barrett-Hamilton (Gerald E. H.), A HISTORY OF BRITISH MAMMALS, Part XV., 2/6

Gurney & Jackson
Deals with Rodents, and is plentifully illustrated.

The publishers announce that, owing to the lamented death of Major Barrett-Hamilton, Mr. Martin A. C. Hinton of the British Museum will complete the work. This section contains an appreciation of Major Barrett-Hamilton.

Boutroux (Emile), NATURAL LAW IN SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY, 7/6 net.

Nutt
An authorized translation by Mr. Fred Rothwell.

Crawford (David L.), A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD A MONOGRAPH OF THE HOMOPTEROUS INSECTS OF THE FAMILY DELPHACIDÆ OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Washington, Govt. Printing Office
This paper is reprinted from the *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*.

Fantham (H. B.) and Porter (Annle), SOME MINUTE ANIMAL PARASITES; OR, UNSEEN FOES IN THE ANIMAL WORLD, 5/ net.

Methuen
This book aims at giving a popular and accurate account of some microscopic protozoal organisms that produce disease in higher animals, including man. It is illustrated by drawings made from the author's own specimens.

Hilditch (T. P.), A THIRD YEAR COURSE OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY: the Heterocyclic Compounds, Carbohydrates, and Terpenes, 6/ net.

Methuen
This volume is a sequel to Dr. A. E. Dunstan's 'First Year' and Mr. F. B. Thole's 'Second Year Organic Chemistry.'

Horticultural Record (The), compiled by Reginald Cory, 42/ net.

J. & A. Churchill
This volume contains over 180 coloured and half-tone reproductions of some of the plants, flowers, and rock gardens at the Royal International Horticultural Exhibition of 1912. These plates are preceded by articles by Mr. H. R. Darlington, Mr. James O'Brien, and others, illustrating the progress of horticulture since the Exhibition of 1866.

Leith (C. K.), STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY, 6/6 net.

Constable
A textbook for students. It is illustrated with photographs and diagrams, and there is an Index.

Levick (Dr. G. Murray), ANTARCTIC PENGUINS, 6/ net.

Heinemann
An account of the habits of Antarctic penguins by the zoologist to the Scott Expedition. The illustrations from photographs are an important feature of the book.

Proceedings of the Rhodesia Scientific Association, VOL. XII.

Bulawayo, the Association
Contains papers read during 1912-13. These include 'Some Ethnological Questions affecting Rhodesia,' by the Rev. S. S. Dornan; 'Social Conditions of the Natives of Mashonaland,' by Mr. F. W. T. Posselt; and 'The Rise of the Matabele,' by Mr. H. Marshall Hole.

Sage (Arthur R.) and Fretwell (Wm. E.), A TEXT-BOOK OF ELEMENTARY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, 3/6 net.

Methuen
The aim of this book is to give general elementary knowledge of the principles of building construction.

Union of South Africa, ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE PERIOD 1912-13, 4/ Cape Town, 'Cape Times'
A full and illustrated report.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

Carpenter (Edward), INTERMEDIATE TYPES AMONG PRIMITIVE FOLK, a Study in Social Evolution, 4/6 net.

Allen
A discussion of the intermediate types between the normal man and the normal woman. The book is divided into two parts, 'The Intermediate in the Service of Religion' and 'The Intermediate as Warrior,' the former of which was originally published in Prof. Stanley Hall's *American Journal of Religious Psychology*, June, 1911.

FINE ARTS.

Catalogue of the Collection of Greek, Roman, English, and Foreign Coins, &c., in Gold and Silver, THE PROPERTY OF KENDALL HAZELDINE, 1/

Sotheby
An illustrated catalogue of a collection to be sold on April 3rd.

Corot, LANDSCAPES, Text by D. Croal Thomson, Part VI., 2/6 net.

'The Studio' Office
This number completes the series. It contains plates in facsimile colours of 'The Boatman,' 'Une Soirée,' 'Lago di Garda,' 'Chevrière au Bord de l'Eau,' 'L'Ouragan,' and 'La Route d'Arras.'

MUSIC.

Gibb (Marian P.), A GUIDE TO THE CHASSEVANT METHOD OF EDUCATION, 3/6 net.

Heinemann
An explanation of Mlle. Chassevant's system. With this volume we have received 'Chassevant Method of Musical Education, Solfège,' First Course (1/6); Second Course (2/6); and Third Course (3/), adapted by Miss Gibb.

DRAMA.

Cornford (F. M.), THE ORIGIN OF ATTIC COMEDY, 8/6 net.

Arnold
The author's hypothesis is that the traditional 'forms'—which are said by Aristotle to be present in Attic Comedy at the date from which the record of comic poets begins—still traceable in the constant features of the Aristophanic play, were inherited from a ritual drama, the content of which can be reconstructed.

Murray (Gilbert), ANDROMACHE, a Play in Three Acts, paper 1/ net, cloth 2/ net.

Allen
A revised edition.

Tolstoy (Leo), PLAYS, translated by Louise and Aylmer Maude, 5/ net.

Constable
A complete edition, including the posthumous plays. There are illustrations and a brief Preface. Foreign.

FOREIGN.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

Lettres et Documents pour servir à l'Histoire de Joachim Murat, 1767-1815, publiés par S.A. le Prince Murat. VIII. Royaume de Naples (9 Septembre, 1809—6 Août, 1810), 7fr. 50.

Paris, Plon-Nourrit
The eighth volume of the Murat Papers, including illustrations, and an Introduction and notes by M. Paul Le Brethon.

Rambaud (Alfred), HISTOIRE DE LA RUSSIE DEPUIS LES ORIGINES JUSQU'À NOS JOURS, 6fr.

Paris, Hachette
A sixth edition, revised and brought up to 1913.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Table Alfabétique de la Bibliographie de la France, ANNÉE 1913.

Paris, Cercle de la Librairie
Compiled from the *Journal Général de l'Imprimerie et de la Librairie*.

PHILOLOGY.

Lulek (Dr. Karl), HISTORISCHE GRAMMATIK DER ENGLISCHEN SPRACHE, 4m. Leipzig, Tauchnitz
The second part of this study.

Ovid, METAMORPHOSEN LIBRI XV. LACTANTI PLACIDI QUI DICITUR NARRATIONES FABULARUM OVIDIANARUM, recensuit apparatus critico instruxit Hugo Magnus, 30m.

Berlin, Weidmann
Includes a text of the 'Metamorphoses,' with critical notes below, an Index of Names, and three plates with reproductions of manuscripts.

LITERARY CRITICISM.

Courbaud (Edmond), HORACE, sa Vie et sa Pensée à l'Époque des Épîtres, 3fr. 50.

Paris, Hachette
A critical study of the first book of the Epistles and its connexion with the poet's life.

GENERAL.

Annales de la Société Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Vol. IX., 1913, 10fr.

Geneva, A. Julien
The Annals include several letters of Rousseau and a Bibliography.

Frankfurter Bücherfreund, Neue Folge, Nr. I., 6m. annually.

Frankfurt a.M., Joseph Baer
An illustrated catalogue including the following divisions: Primitive Woodcuts and Pageants.

Monriot (Albert), LE CRIME RITUEL CHEZ LES JUIFS, 3fr. 50.

Paris, Pierre Téqui
With a Preface by M. Édouard Drumont.

Schaukal (Richard), ZITTELKASTEN EINES ZEITGENOSSEN AUS HANS BURGERS PAPIEREN, 4m.

Munich, Georg Müller
Studies on varied subjects of literary and general interest.

AN AUTHORS' UNION.

22, Chepstow Villas, Bayswater, W., March 24, 1914.

IN reply to Mr. Charles Garvice's letter in your issue of the 14th inst., in which he maintains that I, as a member of the Society of Authors, should have communicated with that Society before taking part in the discussion *re* the above to which you kindly opened your columns, I should like to say that it ought to be possible to discuss the difficulties and disabilities of authors as craftsmen, and yet remain loyal to the existing Society, which has done, and is doing, so much for the dignity and independence of authorship as a profession.

With regard to the references made this week in a contemporary, in which it is suggested that the critical and the creative faculties do not go together, I would respectfully submit that this is not wholly correct.

Every imaginative author, whether poet or novelist, must perforce endeavour to exercise the faculty of criticism and of selection with regard to his own work before submitting it to the public. Moreover, critics, like creators of literature, have in some well-known instances had their judgments reversed by that sternest critic of us all, viz., Time.

For information as to the initial stages of the discussion *re* an Authors' Union, I would refer Mr. Garvice to the views of *The Athenæum* of February 14th and 21st.

W. J. CAMERON.

THE SHAKESPEARES AND STOKE.

Leonard Stanley Vicarage, Stonehouse, Glos.
March 15, 1914.

REFERRING to the article in your issue of March 14th, by Mrs. C. C. Stopes, on Shakespeare and Asbies, it is curious that John Shakespeare went all the way to Stoke-on-Trent for a surety, and it suggests that the Shakespeares had relations living in those parts.

The great parish of Stoke comprised within its limits, if I mistake not, much of the manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

It may interest Mrs. Stopes to know that there was, in the late fourteenth century and possibly earlier and later still, a family of Shakespeare living in that manor. If she will consult the Newcastle Manor Court Rolls at the Record Office she will find, under 37 Edw. III., a "John Shakespeare" on the jury in that year, and that in the same year a "William Shakespeare" was essoined. A "John Shakespeare" occurs again in 17 Rich. II. I was searching those records years ago for very different things, and happened by chance to light on those names. I have no doubt a search would reveal other entries of the name. It would be a singularly interesting thing if it could be shown that the Shakespeares of Stratford came originally out of Staffordshire.

CHARLES SWYNNERTON.

BOOK SALE.

ON Monday and Tuesday, the 16th and 17th inst., Messrs. Sotheby sold the library of the late Mr. A. B. Stewart of Rawcliffe, Glasgow, the chief prices being: Bannatyne Club Publications, 1823-67, 134l. Gould, Birds of Great Britain, 5 vols., 1873, 31l. Holbein, Portraits of Illustrious Persons of the Court of Henry VIII., 1792, 26l. Horse B.V.M., Franco-Flemish MS., 15th century, 35l. Maitland Club Publications, 92 vols., 1830-59, 68l. Charles Mathews, Memoirs, 5 vols., extra-illustrated, 1839, 21l. Sir Thomas More, Works, 1557, 21l. Pyne, History of the Royal Residences, 3 vols., 1810, 26l. Shakespeare, Works, 1623, 1632, 1664, and 1685, first Four Folios, 1,200l. The total of the sale was 2,508l. 5s. 6d.

NOTES FROM OXFORD.

"O UNIVERSITY REFORM, what crimes are committed in thy name!" Such an exclamation will be found handy by all parties at Oxford in view of recent events. The supporters of the proposal to abolish the three orders composing the Hebdomadal Council are not unnaturally wroth with the professoriate and its backers. Having toiled for the best part of two years, they are brought to naught by the adverse vote of a narrow majority in Convocation. Now Convocation represents that "last ditch" in which it is seemly enough that an uncompromising opposition should die magnificently. But if when the routed foe, hurled back from one position after another, rises in restored and reinforced array out of the ditch in question, so that it is filled to the brim, not with their own slain bodies, but with those of their triumphant pursuers, then it is no wonder if the latter take it somewhat hardly. To escape one's own notice having been beaten—how can this be a virtue in professors—in those whose business and boast it is to know? Moreover, Council had certainly done its best, by the method of propounding alternative resolutions, to ascertain what public opinion demanded in regard to this matter, and was in honour bound to bring forward precisely such a scheme as has now suffered shipwreck. Statesmanship has not been to blame, but simply the stubborn logic of events.

The professors, on their side, say that they may in principle claim, and do in fact require, special representation in Council as the official upholders of the cause of learning, or—to put the same thing in another way—of research. They suspect the proposal to disfranchise them of being no better than a specious attempt to subordinate the University, as focus and headquarters of the higher studies, to the system of the Colleges, which are more directly concerned with the teaching of youth. Whether there was any conscious design on the part of the abettors of the Bill to strengthen College influence may be doubted. On the other hand, academic liberals rallied in considerable numbers to the support of the professoriate because they feared lest otherwise the ideal of what is termed "a teaching University" should become all-in-all. Undismayed by taunts to the effect that they were pandering to vested interests, that, in defiance of the spirit of democracy, they were condemning the popular assembly to consider legislation initiated by those who were not its own nominees, and so forth, they lent their aid to the professors, lest the higher studies should become crystallized in the form of curricula, lest learning should become identified with reading for the Schools. There is room within the University for a certain conflict of ideals. As old Heraclitus says, opposite friction keeps things together. Research and the training of youth go hand in hand up to a certain point; but beyond that point there is bound to be an incompatibility of aims, since to prosecute research for its own sake, and train others in the methods of research, demands the special student; while for the purposes of general education, such as a College seeks to provide, there is needed a goodly number of cultivated men of wide interests, ready to take an active part in the moral and social life of the place. The tutorial system for all good Oxford men is a just source of pride. It could hardly be bettered in their eyes, and for that very reason is strong enough as it is. On the other hand, a possible tyranny of professors at Oxford is almost unthinkable, because in

existing conditions it taxes their utmost endeavours to assert even a condominium with the tutors. If the present struggle to maintain their rights tends to augment their corporate feeling, it will be all to the good. They need to take counsel together, so as to make sure that the interests of research are worthily represented, and incidentally to see that the drones occasionally to be met with in every hive of learning are suitably admonished, lest specific charges of inefficiency be generalized to the prejudice of the entire order.

Meanwhile, the six Heads of Houses find themselves preserved by the wholesale rejection of the statute, though the thought that they should be disestablished caused pain to few, and probably not even to themselves. The fact is that, for one reason or another, there are not enough of them to supply a succession of persons able and ready to undertake the arduous work of Council. It is to be hoped that a Bill will promptly be introduced to cut down the number of places reserved for them from six to half that number, thus assigning nine out of the available eighteen seats to those who have braved the test of "free election."

It only remains to add in this context that there is a sound psychological reason why, if the highest dignitaries of the University are to be induced to serve on Council in sufficient numbers, their path of entry should be made smooth. If there is a chance of the Head of a House being beaten in open fight by a Junior Fellow, or of a Professor succumbing to a Demonstrator, the former, if endowed with the ordinary human passions, will simply refuse to stand. As Plato says in regard to a somewhat similar case, a member of this select band, having tasted how sweet and blessed his treasure is, will prefer to watch the madness of the many from afar, as one who takes shelter beneath a wall on a stormy day, unless, indeed, he be provided with a political constitution suited to him. Well, the requisite political constitution, as it turns out, will be forthcoming at Oxford after all!

The other matter that has occupied our legislators during this Term is the Reform of Responsions. The new scheme was criticized adversely in the last instalment of these Notes from the standpoint of those who do not believe in compulsory Greek. A great many amendments have been proposed, but hardly any have been accepted. One important modification, however, has been introduced, consisting in the admission of the principle of compensation. Henceforth the clever mathematician who is all-but-Greekless may hope for mercy from his examiners, if only the latter can decide amongst themselves how many lines of the 'Hecuba' wrong are equivalent to one quadratic equation right. This will be all the more possible because the examiners, under the new plan, will be experts in school-education, and some of them even Cambridge men. The Masters of the Schools are to be abolished, because those narrow-minded dons looked no further than to the needs of their own University. Who knows whether sometimes they may not have harboured the gross and sinister intent of admitting a sufficiency of students—good, bad, or indifferent—to enable the University and the Colleges to pay their way? But now, in the interests of the schools, a higher standard of attainment is to be imposed on those who would qualify for a University career. Regarded in themselves, it must be allowed, the new requirements embody a more liberal ideal of public-school education. Somewhat harder mathematics, classics perhaps a shade easier, and at any rate less cumbered with pedantry,

English composition, and an extra subject—such a system of tests would undoubtedly foster and bring to light a genuine capacity for higher studies in a way that Responsions could never do. But how can the standard be raised without lowering the number of those who pass? It is replied that, by spreading the examination over two years or more, and by catching the candidates young (before the bloom of their classical attainments has had time to wear off), the ranks of the successful will positively be swelled, and every College will be turning away money from the door. Well, this may be so, but if the prophets turn out to be wrong, the University will have to pay the piper. Meanwhile, outside the class of the classically trained, there would seem to be plenty of good material for the highest education in mathematics and natural science. Why limit ourselves then, except for social reasons, to that one class? In this awkward question we have the rock on which the present scheme will in all probability split.

The *Oxford Magazine* has been gallantly championing the cause of the Demonstrator. It is certainly high time that the status and emoluments of those who do yeoman service in the scientific laboratories were substantially improved. The newly established General Board of Faculties might well devote immediate attention to the subject. It is possible that, in regard to fees, the system of profit-sharing in vogue in the various departments does not represent all that could be desired. For the rest, more fellowships might be bestowed on the Museum, such a reward being notably deserved by the Demonstrator, who, by attention to a special line of research, has won himself what amounts to the position of an assistant professor.

Oxford has long stood in need of an Institute of Social and Political Studies, and a satisfactory start has at length been made in the foundation of Barnett House, which commemorates the name of one whose philanthropy marched hand in hand with a scientific interest in the facts of social life. The provisional Committee is engaged in raising a maintenance fund, and its endeavours have already met with a considerable response. Oxford provides ideal head-quarters for the study of social problems, being sufficiently in touch with great men and great movements to warm the heart, yet remote enough from the welter of contemporary politics to keep the head cool. Indeed, it is becoming one of the leading functions of the University to enable students of all nations to obtain insight into the methods and ideals of this country, which in so many respects is the political laboratory of the world. Barnett House, then, can hardly fail to have an interesting future, and with proper support is likely to develop into an important focus of University education.

This summer Exeter College will celebrate the six hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the College. To signalize the occasion new windows have been inserted in the College Hall in commemoration of distinguished Exonians, past and present; while, if sufficient support is forthcoming from old members, it is hoped that further improvements may be carried out in respect to the College buildings. The Rector of the College, Dr. Farnell, is likewise preparing a full Bibliography of the scientific and literary works produced by the Fellows and Tutors during the last half-century. Those who are wont to declare that the academic life is, under present conditions, incompatible with research will, it is to be hoped, fail to find their crucial instance here. M.

Literary Gossip.

THE objects of the proposed School of Imperial Studies deserve the attention and support of students of history; but it may be pointed out that Mr. Sidney Low is under a misapprehension when he states (as reported) that our Imperial archives are left "almost untouched," and that it remains for some future organization in the University of London to indicate the uses of this branch of our public records. We should have thought it common knowledge that a great amount of skilled research has been done in this direction, both by official and unofficial agencies; while the outlying documents are being rapidly accounted for by the Historical Manuscripts Commission, the Commission on Public Records, and the forthcoming 'Bibliography of British History.'

Apart from the above agencies, many foreign and colonial students, and those of at least one college of London University, have made extensive researches amongst the Imperial sources, and to claim this field of labour as virgin soil is scarcely fair to the labourers concerned.

WE have received from Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, Hon. Treasurer of the National Institute for the Blind, a letter containing a very reasonable suggestion to which we are glad to give publicity. A large number of kindly persons undertake to write books in Braille by hand for the use of the blind. Many of the works selected for reproduction thus are of general interest, and can only be made in sufficient numbers by machinery, so that their production by hand—a slow and tedious process—is almost lost labour. On the other hand, there is a small, but often pressing demand on the part of individual blind readers for special works which would not command a large enough sale to make their reproduction in Braille by machinery worth while.

Mr. Pearson suggests that writers of Braille should turn their attention to these, and proposes to create a department at the Institute with which blind students and writers of Braille alike may communicate—these to be told what works are required, and those to state their wants in the way of books.

THE building begun some ten years ago, and completed at a cost of 600,000*l.*, designed to hold the Academy of Sciences, the University Library, and—more important than these—the Royal Library of Berlin, was opened on the 22nd inst. It stands on the north side of Unter den Linden, and that part of it dedicated to the Royal Library is capable of accommodating 6,000,000 books. The Royal Library had its beginning in the treasures from dissolved monasteries collected by the Great Elector. First housed in the Royal castle, it was transferred in 1780 to a building opposite the Opera-House, where Frederick the Great allowed the public access to it, and where it remained till it was moved to its present quarters. It numbers more than one and a half million volumes.

M. PAUL DESCHANEL has been elected a member of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. The fact is worth notice, for the President of the French Chamber of Deputies has been a member of the Académie Française since 1899, and it is not usual for one of the "Forty" to become a candidate for a chair in another academy, though the converse occurs frequently.

THE February number of *The Russian Review*—published quarterly by the School of Russian Studies in the University of Liverpool—is decidedly worth attention on the part of that increasing public which acknowledges the fascination of Russia. It contains an illuminating paper on that very subject by Mr. Maurice Baring; discussions of the relations between England and Russia in early days and in recent years; the account of a 'Visit to a Settlement of Old Believers,' by Mr. W. J. Birkbeck; and one or two articles—such as Mr. George Calderon's 'The Tale of Sorrow' and a translation of M. V. G. Korolenko's 'The Old Belleringer'—which illustrate from the more intimate side the life of the people. Mr. Harold Williams's study of 'The Russian Mohammedans' and Anton Palme's 'Progress of Russian Studies in Germany' are also noticeable.

THE April number of *The Commonwealth* is of considerable and varied interest. It has articles on the Free Church Council at Norwich, Colliery Explosions, Nietzsche and Eugenics, and Christianity and Social Welfare in New Zealand. In all alike appeal is made to those hidden sources of noble impulse which we recently heard a preacher, discoursing on 'The Futility of the Faithful,' compare with reservoirs lying unused because the machinery to draw upon them has been misapplied or mislaid. It seems worth while to draw the attention of a wider circle of readers to our plain-speaking, hard-hitting contemporary, whose *bête noire*, we gather, is piety divorced from practice.

Chambers's Journal for April has an article on Queen Elena of Italy as "a Royal Archæologist," by Mr. L. A. M. Pynsent; a paper by Mr. F. G. Aflalo entitled 'Thoughts of a Traveller'; and one on 'The Plague in Scotland,' by Mr. Louis A. Barbé. 'In Pilgrim Garb' (suggested by Mr. Stephen Graham's late work on Russian pilgrimages), 'Antarctica,' 'Nerves versus Happiness,' and 'Education in Food Values,' an account of methods adopted in the United States, should be worth attention.

Harper's Magazine for April contains an article entitled 'What is Gravity?' by Sir Oliver Lodge; a story by Mary E. Wilkins (Mrs. Freeman) called 'Daniel and Little Dan'; a paper on the Yucatan ruins, by Dr. Ellsworth Huntington; and an essay on 'Writing English,' by Mr. Henry Seidel Canby. Madame de Hegemann-Lindencrone writes on her 'First Visit to the Court of Denmark,' and Mrs. Chapman Catt has an article on 'A Survival of Matriarchy.'

MESSRS. SMITH & ELDER are publishing immediately, in two volumes, the late Whitelaw Reid's 'American and English Studies.' These include some of the writer's more important discussions on matters of public interest, and illustrate both his purely intellectual outlook and his point of view as a citizen.

THE death is announced in Edinburgh, in his 65th year, of Dr. David Patrick, editor of 'Chambers's Encyclopædia,' the 'Cyclopædia of Literature,' and other works. For some months Dr. Patrick had been unfit for duty, but the immediate cause of death was pneumonia, to which he succumbed last Sunday. The son of the Rev. Joseph Patrick, Free Church minister, Ochiltree, Ayrshire, he was born at Lochwinnoch in 1849, and educated at Ayr Academy, under Dr. James Macdonald, and Edinburgh University. He next passed to New College, with a view of reading for the ministry of the Free Church, and subsequently studied philosophy, history, and theology at the Universities of Tübingen, Leipsic, Berlin, and Göttingen. Owing to conscientious scruples, he did not in the end become a minister, but took up literary work, doing articles for the ninth edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' and for the 'Globe Encyclopædia' before joining the literary staff of Messrs. W. & R. Chambers, where he rose to be chief. He came first as temporary assistant to Dr. Findlater in 1874, then returned as locum tenens when the editor was ordered abroad for his health, and later succeeded him. He saw through the press the new edition of 'Chambers's Encyclopædia,' the 'Cyclopædia of English Literature,' the 'Gazetteer of the World,' and the 'Biographical Dictionary,' the last an excellent book in which he had F. H. Groome as a collaborator.

Dr. Patrick's vast stores of reading and experience were cheerfully placed at the service of his employers and colleagues. He was indefatigable as a notetaker, and his reference copy of the 'Encyclopædia' is a mass of annotations culled from every source. A laborious work was his translation for the Scottish History Society of 'Statuta Ecclesiæ Scotiæ, 1225-1556,' with illustrative notes. He had gathered much out-of-the-way material regarding the life and works of Burns, which, however, he never published.

M. CHARLES WADDINGTON died last week. Born at Milan in 1819, he was a teacher in several lycées, and a lecturer for some time at the École Normale before he was appointed in 1879 to the Chair of Classical Philosophy at the Sorbonne. In 1888 he was elected a member of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. He is best known as the author of 'De la Psychologie d'Aristote,' 'Ramus, sa Vie et ses Opinions,' 'Essai de Logique,' and 'Aristote, Écrivain et Moraliste.'

WE regret to learn of the death, in his 84th year, of the distinguished Provençal poet Frédéric Mistral, which took place on Wednesday last at Maillane. We shall publish a notice of his life and work next week.

SCIENCE

THE PRACTICAL SIDE OF AVIATION.

HERE we have a "practical" manual of flying, in contradiction to the many volumes that have been written on the theory of the subject. It embraces the actual experiences of the authors, and for that reason, perhaps, is likely to make a more popular appeal than many of the works on aviation that have preceded it.

Mr. Gustav Hamel, particularly, is known as an intrepid flier. Of his authority to write on the subject there can be no question, and many who have admired him in the distance will be glad to make a closer acquaintance with him through the medium of the printed page.

They will enjoy their experience the more because there is no suspicion of boasting or vain-gloriousness in this entertaining book. The authors are frankly fascinated with their subject, and they write with the enthusiasm of devotees. The "man in the street," who possesses possibly no great desire to be among the conquerors of the air, will yet be curious to know the sort of qualifications necessary for the art. He will learn here that

"the extremely excitable man, who is never in repose, will probably learn to fly easily, but he has not the qualities to become a master. His opposite, the very dull, listless, heavy individual, will probably during his lesson never show the slightest perturbation, and will essay his first solo flight with perfect apparent sang-froid. He is, however, quite likely to smash his machine at this trial."

But these two types of men are both extremes, and not, we imagine, more common among aviators than elsewhere.

The best age to learn to fly is, we are told, from eighteen to thirty. The late Mr. S. F. Cody, who started at the age of forty-seven, was an exception to the general rule. But, as in most other sports, in order to excel one must begin young.

Another matter that should prove of peculiar interest to the average onlooker is the question of the cause and prevention of accidents. We learn that they are largely due to carelessness, and the neglect of trivial details.

"It cannot be too often laid down that the best pilot is not he who exhibits great audacity, but rather the man who makes sure of his goal by preventing the possibility of mishap. By vigilance on the part of all concerned flying can be made safe, even on the machines of the present day."

This is mere common sense, and the deduction as to safety is comforting, though it would seem to show that there has been a good deal of fatal carelessness in the past.

To those who see something more in the future of aviation than the mere giving of

Flying, some Practical Experiences. By Gustav Hamel and Charles C. Turner. (Longmans & Co., 12s. 6d. net.)

exhibition flights, upside down or otherwise, the chapter on 'The Aeroplane in War' should be attractive. The numerous illustrations—many of them photographs taken in mid-air of the panorama of city or country—side below—are a decided addition to the book.

SOCIETIES.

BRITISH ACADEMY. — March 18. — Viscount Bryce, President, in the chair.—Prof. Haverfield, Fellow of the Academy, read his Annual Report on 'Recent Discoveries in Roman Britain.'

The lecturer began by observing that an annual report such as he had given for some years to the Academy must necessarily sound like a chapter from a narrative of which the preceding chapter had been read a year ago, and the following one could not be known till a twelvemonth hence. Still, there seemed a demand for such a summary. Abridgments and snippets were, indeed, generally popular to-day. The past year had seen much archaeological activity, which he described with lantern illustrations. In the far North Dr. Macdonald and himself had verified a Roman encampment at Ythan Wells in North Aberdeenshire, almost in the latitude of Inverness; at some still doubtful date it had sheltered a largish Roman force for a few days, and it was for the nonce the "Furthest Known North" of the Romans. On the Wall of Pius, between Forth and Clyde, Dr. Macdonald had fixed the true sites of three forts and the true line of the Wall in some doubtful places; he had also detected at last the western terminus of these frontier works near Old Kilpatrick; while Mr. Miller of Glasgow University had patiently excavated an interesting fort at Balmuildy, just outside Glasgow. The excavations at Corbridge, for the first time since their beginning in 1907, had proved somewhat disappointing. But at Ambleside, at Slack near Huddersfield, at Castell Collen near Llandrindod Wells, and at Gellygaer in Glamorgan, the uncovering of four Roman forts had been commenced or continued, and good additions made to our understanding of how the Romans conquered and held down the hill-tribes of Western and Northern Britain. At Chester a graveyard of the legionary fortress had been examined by Prof. Newstead; while eight miles away, at Holt, Mr. Acton had further explored the kilns in which the legion had made its tiles and pottery—kilns of much technical interest and excellent preservation. Not only did identically stamped tiles occur at Chester and at Holt, but the Holt pottery was found in Chester—for instance, in the graveyard just explored.

To match these finds much had been yielded by non-military settlements. Chief among these was the country-town of Viroconium, or Wroxeter, in Shropshire, where Mr. Bushe-Fox had enjoyed a successful second season, finding in particular the foundations of a temple of Italian rather than British style, which was in use during the second and third centuries. At Colchester, the "Colonia" on the opposite side of Britain, the striking ruin of the western or Balkeine gate had been examined and planned by the Morant Club. At Canterbury another mosaic fell to be added to the evidence for this Romano-British country-town. In London clearances for new buildings connected with the G.P.O. had laid bare rubbish-pits of Londinium, though, like many London antiquities, they had gained scanty attention. Few, even among London antiquaries, knew that little more than a year ago the London Museum acquired a Roman pot scratched with the ancient Roman name "Londinium." Less success had fallen to excavations at Caerwent and Kenchester, but a world was due to work by Mr. D. Atkinson, Research Fellow of Reading College, at Lowbury. Here, on a hilltop of the Berkshire Downs, overlooking the Thames Valley, was a dwelling-place or refuge of Roman Britons in the last days of the Empire, and close by the burial-mound of a Saxon warrior.

In all this activity a pleasant feature was the advance in provision of competent supervision. It was to be feared that a few remains were even still dug without proper direction, but they were now very few indeed; at Wroxeter and elsewhere it was recognized that a large excavation needed not one, but three or four men, to control the digging and list the finds, and so forth. It was pleasant, too, to see the Universities taking more part; at least five of the just-mentioned excavations were supervised last year by young Oxford graduates. This was good, both for the excavations and for the Universities, which thus widened

their studies and came in closer touch with local men and local interests.

The lecturer said he hoped to issue shortly, not a mere sketch of the finds of 1913, but a detailed account of the Roman inscriptions found in Britain in that year, together with a summary of all that had been published on Roman Britain in the same period. No such summaries exist at present, and he thought they might prove useful in focussing knowledge of a scattered but national subject.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—March 19.—The Earl of Crawford, V.P., in the chair.

Mr. Charles Boulker read a paper on a carved chest-front depicting incidents in the battle of Courtrai, in the possession of the Warden of New College, Oxford. The chest is of Flemish workmanship of the early years of the fourteenth century, and is therefore practically contemporary with the incidents it depicts, the battle of Courtrai having taken place in 1302. The chest is carved in panels, which represent among other incidents the Flemish horsemen, headed by Gui de Namur, the Flemish footmen carrying the gild banners, two incidents in the battle itself, and what is apparently a sortie from Courtrai and the spoiling of the slain. The chest is, therefore, a valuable record of the military equipment of the early years of the fourteenth century, and is unique in that it contains the only known representation of the weapon used by the Flemish burghers called the *Godendag*, or *plançon à picot*. This weapon is a long, club-like implement with a steel spike at the end. The only other instance of it was on a wall-painting, now destroyed, discovered at Ghent by M. Felix de Vigne, and subsequently published by him; but grave doubts were thrown on M. de Vigne's accuracy by Belgian archaeologists. The evidence of the chest, however, goes far to prove that M. de Vigne's representation of the wall-painting was sound, and that he accurately represented this interesting weapon.

The heraldry displayed by the mounted men is somewhat difficult to elucidate, but the banners of the trade gilds are clearly shown. From these and other evidences there can be no doubt that the chest-front represents the battle of Courtrai, when the Flemish burghers, under Gui de Namur and Pierre Coninc, defeated the French under the Comte d'Artois.

HISTORICAL.—March 19.—Prof. Firth, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. H. R. Tedder describing the plan and progress of the 'Bibliography of British History, 1485-1911,' which is being undertaken by a Joint Committee of the Royal Historical Society and of American scholars. The first of the three volumes is approaching completion.—Mr. J. C. Davies was elected a Fellow of the Society.—The death of Dr. J. H. Wylie, the distinguished historian of the reign of Henry IV., and a member of the Council of the Royal Historical Society, was referred to with regret.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- MON. Institute of Actuaries, 5.—'The Treatment of the Depreciation in Assets due to an Enhanced Rate of Interest,' Mr. R. R. Tilt.
— Society of Arts, 8.—'Surface Combustion,' Lecture III., Prof. W. A. Bone. (Howard Lecture).
— Surveyors' Institution, 8.—'London before the Fire as referred to in sixteenth and seventeenth-century literature,' Mr. W. W. Jenkins.
TUES. Royal Institution, 8.—'Landscape and Natural Objects in Classical Art: (i) Later Greece and Rome,' Mr. A. H. Smith.
— Society of Arts, 4.30.—'The Oil Resources of the Empire,' Mr. D. F. Mollwo Perkin. (Colonial Section).
WED. Archaeological Institute, 4.30.—'Nicholas Stone's School of Fly-Workers,' 'Two Edifices attributed to Bernini,' and 'The Font in St. Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield,' Dr. A. C. Fryer.
— Entomological S.
— Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'Discussion on 'Some Recent Developments in Commercial Motor Vehicles,' and 'Comparative Economics of Tramways and Railless Electric Traction.'
— St. Paul's Ecclesiastical, 8.—'Pages from my Scrapbook,' Rev. H. B. Plim.
— Society of Arts, 8.—'Sarawak: Her Highness the Rance.
THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Progress of Modern Eugenics: (i) Eugenics to-day: its Counterparts, Powers and Problems,' Dr. C. W. Saleeby.
— Royal, 4.30.—'Series Lines in Spark Spectra,' Prof. A. Fowler. (Bakerian Lecture).
— Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—'The Signalling of a Rapid Transit Railway,' Mr. H. G. Brown.
— Chemical, 8.30.—'The System: Ethyl Ether—Water—Potassium Iodide—Mercuric Iodide,' Part III., Mr. A. C. Dunningham: 'The Velocity of Saponification of Acyl Derivatives of Phenols,' Part I., Messrs. H. McCombie and H. A. Scarborough: 'A General Method for the Preparation of Glyoxals and their Acetals,' Messrs. H. D. Dakin and H. W. Dudley; and other Papers.
— Society of Antiquaries, 8.30.
— Victoria and Albert Museum, 8.30.—'Some Sources of Modern Textile Design,' Mr. A. F. Kendrick.
FRI. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'Fast Stirlingshire Waterworks and a Note on Earthen Embankments,' Mr. O. L. Bell. (Students' Meeting).
— Royal Institution, 8.—'Further Researches on Positive Rays,' Prof. Sir J. J. Thomson.
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—'Recent Discoveries in Physical Science,' Lecture VI., Prof. Sir J. J. Thomson.

FINE ARTS

NEW CUNEIFORM TEXTS IN THE
BRITISH MUSEUM.

THIS Supplement to the 'Catalogue of the Cuneiform Tablets in the Kouyunjik Collection of the British Museum' represents in effect the result of the Museum's excavations upon the site of Assur-bani-pal's Palace at Kouyunjik in 1903-5. They were carried on by Mr. Leonard King, at first with only native help, and during the last year in collaboration with Mr. Campbell Thompson, and resulted in the acquisition by the Museum of more than 3,000 tablets. These are here catalogued by their principal discoverer, together with some others which have either been obtained by purchase or were left over uncatalogued from the earlier excavations of Layard, George Smith, Rassam, and Dr. Wallis Budge. The same system has been pursued in this volume as in the general 'Catalogue of the Kouyunjik Collection,' published fifteen years ago, and to this it forms a valuable Supplement.

Among the new texts there is none, perhaps, of first-rate importance, although there will be many valuable to students, as either confirming old readings or affording support for new ones. The most generally interesting is a new fragment of the Epic of Gilgames, who is thought to be the Babylonian prototype of the Greek Hercules. It is in dramatic form, and opens with a speech by some unnamed person to the giant Gilgames when he has been wounded, no doubt in his fight with the tyrant Khumbaba, whose name constantly reappears in Asiatic legends even in Christian times. Gilgames is exhorted to trust himself to the guidance of his half-beast, half-man ally, Ea-bani or Enkidu, that he may see him safe through the cedar forest of Elam to the palace of the Goddess Ninsun, who will, it is suggested, heal him of his wound. He accordingly does so, and the pair find themselves in the presence of Ninsun, when Gilgames recounts to her their adventures, here unfortunately broken away. When the narrative is resumed, we find some one (probably Ninsun) giving them advice, and apparently stipulating that in return therefor Gilgames shall come back and help the speaker in some difficulty that threatens her. Here the tablet again most provokingly breaks off, but we may hope that some day fragments will turn up to complete the story.

There are other curious relics in this part of the collection, including a Semitic tablet in which Marduk or Merodach of Babylon is called *Sar apsu*, or Lord of the Deep, a title which is generally confined to Ea. This shows a further progress towards the syncretism or *theocrasia* which led the later Babylonians to endeavour to

fuse their deities in the all-embracing personality of Marduk; but a less advanced stage of the process is here exemplified by several earlier tablets wherein Ea is himself spoken of as *Enlil-banda* or *Mullil-banda*, meaning apparently "champion" of Enlil, the Sumerian god whom the Semites transformed into the "elder Bel" or Bel of Nippur. There is also mention in other tablets of the Sumerian goddess Nin-lil, wife of Nergal, as "Lady of Arbela," a title afterwards assigned to the great goddess Ishtar, while Zarpanit, the rather shadowy consort of Marduk, is always described as "Lady of Babylon." Among the further objects catalogued in this Supplement is a curious imitation in blundered hieroglyphs of a seal of Seti I. by an Assyrian hand, which shows that the forging of Egyptian antiquities is an older crime than one had fancied.

The Supplement is executed with all the care and accuracy which we are used to associate with Mr. King's work, and will be indispensable to every student of cuneiform.

Education in Art. By Fred Burridge. (L.C.C. Central School of Arts and Crafts.)

THIS report of an address by the Head Master of the Central School of Arts and Crafts in Southampton Row will be read with attention by all interested in the present educational situation, and especially by those concerned with that particular branch of education relating to the needs of artistic manufacture and handicraft. The views put forward by Mr. Burridge have no claim to be other than his own private opinion, but we may perhaps take it that what he thinks is not beyond the possibility of being incorporated in the policy of the County Council which he serves. Once more we find foreshadowed the likelihood of the Day Technical Schools being the beginnings of a universal system of (possibly compulsory) day school attendance to take the place of the decaying system of apprenticeship, Mr. Burridge humanely recognizing that

"a boy who has worked all day should afterwards have every encouragement and facility for recreation; it is unreasonable to expect him to attend school in the evening; if he does, he is not in a condition to benefit as he should, and he suffers in health."

As to this, the present reviewer has found in his own considerable experience as a teacher that nature to some extent prompts young men wisely in this respect. It is noticeable that there is a type which almost immediately on leaving school works hard at art in the evenings, wins all the prizes, raising great hopes in the breasts of those who always expect genius to be precocious, and then unaccountably, yet perhaps wisely, slows down, either attending less or working with greater economy of energy. There is another type which, attending hardly at all or else "slacking" in early youth, comes back later, full of unnecessary repentance for wasted opportunities, and thus towards middle life picks up a

belated education at least as complete as that of the other. This is right and proper, and we have little sympathy with those who consider that public money should only be spent in the art training of very young craftsmen. The wiser teachers have long recognized the absurdity of driving boys already tired with their day's work to overdo themselves. Indeed, we can remember an industrious student who was deliberately ordered away for a year to kick his heels out of doors. On his return he did in a month all he would have done in that year.

"It is wonderful [says Mr. Burridge] how many do voluntarily study, but because the attendance is voluntary and almost recreative, it is frequently desultory, and the school is not in a position to enforce a curriculum.... The greater proportion of the students do not gain a disciplined education."

In a large measure this is true, but perhaps greater stress might have been laid on the fact that the teacher is efficient largely in proportion as he makes the following out of his curriculum appear recreative. Mr. Walter Sickert, perhaps the most successful teacher of art under the County Council, imposed his curriculum (not perhaps, in our own opinion, quite a suitable one for County Council schools, inasmuch as it prepared students for what Mr. Burridge would term a "moribund trade") because, besides being an excellent teacher, he was a wit, a man of the world—almost a comedian—and attendance at his classes was like belonging to a good club.

It would be absurd to expect such varied gifts of most of the teachers employed at the salaries offered by the L.C.C., but we think that too much sarcasm has been levelled at the attempt to make these evening schools popular. To make them popular by the negative process of allowing students to do anything they like, however foolish, is lamentable; but they should have some of the attractions of a club, and the pursuit of art should retain some of the elements of a "lark," for only so can students be retained long enough to give to some of them "a disciplined education." At an evening school students attend only two or three hours after work—say three nights a week. It is absurd to expect a three years' course there to produce results analogous to a three years' course at the Royal Academy or the Slade, where students have an eight-hour day and complete leisure; but if we make suitable allowances for such proportionate opportunities, there are evening schools, we believe, in London which might not fear such comparisons. Here one is bound to go slower and be more indulgent to the personal needs of students, whether in considering the immediate demands of "the trade" (by no means always those of art) or in conceding something to relaxation. Thus at the L.C.C. school in Bolt Court there is each year a play after the school supper, which undoubtedly takes some of the energies of certain students. It is not a serious

contribution to literature, but the stage-management and costume-designing are excellent, and it would be a narrow critic, after all, who sees no relation between these arts and those of the poster designer and illustrator.

It is a sign also of the more liberal attitude which is overtaking modern critics of education that Mr. Burridge even ventures to raise a defence for the teaching of amateurs. Not so long ago this was the point on which critics were most intolerant. Yet in the reviewer's experience of evening classes the most brilliant student was an amateur; his value as a pacemaker to two or three generations of professional craftsmen was enormous. Here is another instance: a man who was a clerk in a business which failed, was left unemployed at an age which for a clerk was almost hopeless. He had built up a delicate and admirable talent as a designer by study at evening classes, and is a promising young artist, "full of work," if somewhat underpaid.

It must be remembered that the difficulty for the serious amateur who would become a craftsman is not always that he is deficient in technique, but sometimes that his taste is a little too severe. The winning over of the middleman and employer, touched on by Mr. Burridge, is probably the most difficult task of those responsible for the management of the County Council Schools. Indeed, it is probably only if he can render services in this direction that the "whole-time" head master, with his high salary, is entitled to exist. Hitherto, with all that the County Councils have done for art—and their work is considerable—there has been a tendency to overpay a few head masters, and so to underpay the real teachers in the schools as to cramp the impulse towards technical research and experiment in teaching methods which is inborn in the true teacher, and the most hopeful element in the Council Art Schools.

EXHIBITIONS.

In an age given to self-questioning as to direction in artistic matters, the greatest success is still to the virtuoso who remains conservative, absorbed in pushing actual accomplishment on familiar lines to its highest point of precision and certainty. In this category Mr. Muirhead Bone (who is showing his drawings of Italy, together with certain new etchings, at the gallery of Messrs. Colnaghi & Obach) is clearly one of the ablest men of our time. He has picked up something from most modern architectural draughtsmen, and in each case made it his own. Thus in Nos. 10, 11, 14, 18, and 23 we are led to remember Mr. Brangwyn, but without the reflection, which usually accompanies such recognition of influence, that Mr. Brangwyn himself would have done these things much better. It is so with the influence of Mr. D. Y. Cameron, which one might trace in Nos. 6, 17, and 20—fine drawings all of them—or with the sparkling adaptation of the earlier manner of Mr. Joseph Pennell shown in Nos. 12, 15, 21, and 46. In each instance the inspiration appears as genuine and spontaneous as in the case of the artists recalled by Mr. Bone, while the executive skill is almost greater. Other

artists may appeal to us as thinkers or speculators who have enlarged the boundaries of art; he is pre-eminently an executant, a man to whom the practice of drawing from nature is a sufficient interest, but who diligently searches the works of other draughtsmen for hints which give him the key to new themes, and make him free of new subject-matter. No. 34, *Passeggiata Archeologica*, shows a touch of invention recalling those fictional "compositions of ruins" which frequently turn up in the portfolios of sketches left by eighteenth-century architects.

When he is prompted by no such reminiscences of previous art, Mr. Bone's impulse is to an almost photographic literalism. No. 31, *The Pantheon, Rome*, would have delighted Ruskin. It is a kind of drawing hardly feasible except with architectural subjects, breaking down even on such a work as the *Theatre of Marcellus, Rome* (37), in which the broken forms of native rocks piled on one another suffice to muddle the design. Mr. Bone hesitates to try such a meticulous method on pure landscape, and in *The Back of the Duomo, Orvieto* (24), the contrast between the light method used for the architecture and the freer execution in the landscape foreground is a little sudden and arbitrary. As a rule, the transition is better managed, and is either between the permanent architectural features of a city and the vague passing ghosts of the people inhabiting it, or in landscape between the serene distance and the more vaguely apprehended foreground which impresses us as we walk, blurring by our own motion the nearer objects, and seeing the distance only clearly through a haze of passing foreground.

At Messrs. Palser's Galleries in King Street is a collection of early English water-colour drawings, fairly representative in both senses, inasmuch as it shows the school in its power and in its frequent dullness. A fine series of Cotmans (57, 59, 60, 61, 63, and 65) are the gems of the collection, along with an exceptional Turner, *Malvern Abbey* (87), which shows him at the moment when his power over his medium had reached its maximum, yet before the display of elaboration for its own sake had become an obsession. Girtin is represented by two drawings of 1794 (85 and 89), which, curiously enough, suggest that he had been lured a little way on the same path of triviality before he turned back to do so severe a masterpiece as the street scene now showing at Messrs. Agnew's. Interesting work by Dayes (83), Muller (45), and T. Wheatley (24) is also exhibited, but, as is usual on these occasions, Cotman is supreme.

The decorations done at Sapphire Lodge, Vincent Square, under the direction of Mr. A. Randall Wells, which were on view last week, show the somewhat luxurious and eclectic taste which we connect with the Arts and Crafts movement, and a similar inclination to evoke vaguely historical associations. The result, if not very robust, is sometimes charming, as in the dining-room, with its lighted corner cupboards full of china. The principal feature of the decoration is the revival of elegant craftsmanship in the painting of wooden furniture, a tradition delightfully maintained in England to the end of the eighteenth century or a little later. In the bedroom panels the floral designs are a little over-lavish of detail and cloying, but the whole work is full of ingenious and amusing episodes.

ENGRAVINGS.

On Friday, the 20th inst., Messrs. Sotheby sold engravings, including a collection of ornamental designs by Aldegrevier, &c., 41 lots, 765*l.* 15*s.* Turner, after Eastlake, Napoleon on board the Bellerophon, 54*l.* Ward, after Morland, The Thatcher, 86*l.*

Fine Art Gossip.

AN exhibition of water-colours entitled 'Rustic Horse Life,' by Mr. N. H. J. Baird, will be opened at the Carroll Gallery, George Street, Hanover Square, on Monday next. Twenty pastels by a Hungarian artist, Charles de Belle, who has not hitherto exhibited in London, will be shown at the same time.

MR. JAMES SANT has resigned his membership of the Royal Academy, desiring to make room for an Associate to become a full member. He is in his 94th year, and has been an R.A. since 1869. Notwithstanding his great age, Mr. Sant is still at work, and hopes to continue exhibiting in the Academy every year.

THE MARCHIONESS ARCONATI-VISCONTI has given to the Louvre Museum her collections of paintings, sculptures, and furniture belonging to the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the eighteenth century.

AMERICAN ladies resident in England have subscribed for the erection of a statue of Chatham in the Capitol at Washington to commemorate the centenary of peace between this kingdom and the United States. It is to be the work of Mr. F. Derwent Wood, and the artist's sketch-model of the whole statue, with his study of the head, will be exhibited in this year's Royal Academy.

MR. LEE WARNER announces, on behalf of the Medici Society, that two new volumes from the Riccardi Press may be expected about Easter. 'The Book of Genesis,' in the Authorized Version, has ten water-colour illustrations by Mr. F. Cayley Robinson; and an edition of *Cæsar* will be printed from the new text prepared for the Clarendon Press by Dr. T. Rice Holmes.

MR. W. RUSSELL FLINT has just been made an Associate of the Royal Water-Colour Society. Mr. Flint has recently returned from Sicily, where he has been at work upon a set of illustrations for 'Theocritus, Bion, and Moschus.' These drawings will appear in the Riccardi Press edition of Andrew Lang's version, which will be published in the autumn.

READERS of Pepys will remember his anxiety to possess a wine-cistern, and may like to have their attention called to the specimen, belonging to the Ashburnham Collection, which was disposed of the other day at Messrs. Christie's. This was a piece of early Georgian work by Sleath, of oval shape, 40 in. long by over 19 in. high, engraved with the arms of Crowley impaling Gascoigne. Its date—1720—is of some interest, as it has been stated that no wine-cisterns (introduced from Italy in Charles I.'s time) are of later date than Anne.

GOODRICH HOUSE, Hatfield, as we mentioned recently, is to become the Hatfield Gallery of Antiques. It will be opened in April with an exhibition of early English furniture. The house is named from Thomas Goodrich, Bishop of Ely, Lord Chancellor, whose arms, quartered with those of the diocese of Ely, are carved on the east wall. The earliest reference to it that has been discovered is in 1483, and in 1605 the owner was Sir John Leake. During the recent reconstruction of the property, the workpeople found a number of coins, also the remains of a timber building that formerly stood on the site. A good example of English domestic architecture of its period, the house is in itself well worth a visit.

Musical Gossip.

Mlle. VERA BROCK gave an orchestral concert on Wednesday evening at Queen's Hall, when she played three pianoforte concertos. The first was by Henselt in F minor, a work merely written for a player to exhibit his or her virtuosity. Mlle. Brock has a refined touch and excellent technique, though her sense of rhythm is not strong; this was especially noticeable in the Schumann Concerto which followed. Moreover, the reading of the first movement was cold. Although the London Symphony Orchestra was under M. Safonoff, the accompaniments were too loud, and at times rough. It was difficult for M. Safonoff to exert his full power in the showy and shallow Henselt music, but even in the interpretation of Schumann he was not up to his usual standard.

THE whole of the concert of the Bach Choir at Queen's Hall last Tuesday evening was devoted to the music of the composer whose name it bears. It opened with the splendid 'Magnificat' in D. The choir sang well, and of the soloists, Misses Rhoda von Glehn and Dilys Jones, and Messrs. John Adams and Robert Radford, the last named was the most convincing. The London Symphony Orchestra was playing under the direction of Dr. H. P. Allen. He is a sound conductor, but Bach's music wants a more soulful rendering. Miss May Harrison gave an excellent performance of the Violin Concerto in E, and the wonderful slow movement evidently made a special appeal to Dr. Allen, for he displayed more feeling here than in the Mass. The Triple Concerto was ably interpreted by Miss Fanny Davies, Miss May Harrison, and Mr. D. S. Wood (flute).

MISS WINIFRED HOLLOWAY gave last week at the Steinway Hall a recital which included burlesques, parodies, and dialect studies written and composed by herself, French and English songs, and satires and legends from the fifteenth century to the eighteenth. In the first group of carols and legends, which included 'Entre le Boeuf et l'Âne Gris' and 'Saint Joseph cherche logis pour la Sainte Vierge,' Miss Holloway's renderings, though sadly interrupted by the late entrance of some of the audience, were interpreted in the proper "folk" fashion, without undue elaboration, or insistence on the dramatic element. The French songs were, perhaps, the most successful items of the programme, and showed much variety and charm. Miss Holloway's ingenuity and humour were apparent in the selection of her own parodies and songs.

THE series of Classical Concerts came to a close last Wednesday afternoon. Miss Muriel Foster sang Schumann's cycle, 'Frauenliebe und Leben,' and some Hugo Wolf Lieder. Mr. Frank Bridge's excellent setting of 'The Londonderry Air,' and Mr. Percy Grainger's taking Irish reel, 'Molly on the Shore,' were played by the London String Quartet. Brahms's Sextet for Strings, seldom given, represents him in his early period, and it frankly shows the composers by whom he was influenced. The autumn series of concerts is announced. They will take place at Bechstein Hall every week, from October 14th until December 16th, alternately afternoon and evening.

MR. F. S. KELLY gave the first of two concerts at the Æolian Hall on the 19th inst. He began with Handel's Suite in F minor, one of that composer's best, yet seldom played. More might have been

made of Beethoven's early Sonata in A flat, Op. 26. 'The Variations' are pleasing, and the 'Funeral March' is true Beethoven; but the other two movements are inferior. Mr. Kelly produced twenty-four "Monographs" of his own composition. The number is alarming, but they are all short, and show taste and fair skill. What the composer has to say is, however, not very deep. There seems no good reason for giving the whole set; a few of them at a time would, we believe, show to better advantage.

TWO of the three concerts announced by Mr. F. B. Ellis have taken place. The first, at Queen's Hall on the 20th inst., was devoted to modern orchestral music. It opened with Mr. Arnold Bax's 'Festival Overture'—a bright, spirited, and well-scored work. His four Orchestral Sketches were also given, the two middle numbers for the first time. The 'Dance in the Sun' is clever: it has vivid rhythms and effective colouring, and the composer was wise in stopping while interest was still fresh. Little genre pieces of the kind soon lose their charm if unduly prolonged. No. 3, 'In the Hills of Home,' also has its good points: expressive themes—two of them traditional—and delicate orchestration.

MR. GEORGE BUTTERWORTH was represented by 'A Shropshire Lad,' produced at the last Leeds Festival, and an idyll, 'The Banks of Green Willow,' the title being the name of the first theme, which, like the third, is traditional. The music is promising, but the composer does not seem to have worked up excellent thematic material so as to produce gradation of interest. The rest of the music in the first part consisted of a curious symphonic poem by Dvorák, entitled 'Die Mittagshexe.' His clever hand can be traced in the work, but it is programme-music which, compared with what we have heard since, sounds mild. All the numbers mentioned were given under the direction of Mr. Geoffrey Toye, a young conductor who has temperament, vitality, and musical understanding. He ought to do well. Mr. F. B. Ellis conducted Strauss's 'Don Quixote,' of which he gave a sound and interesting reading.

AT the chamber concert at the Æolian Hall on the following Monday the chief item was a 'Phantasy Quintet' for Strings by Dr. Vaughan Williams. It is a clever work without any display of learning. The two middle movements are the most interesting, yet the whole seems to have been written by the composer for himself and his art. The slow movement of calm, ethereal character is most striking. It is pure chamber music. This Quintet was admirably interpreted by the London String Quartet and Mr. James Lockyer (second viola). M. Ricardo Viñes-Roda, the pianist, performed some elaborate Variations on a fresh little theme by Rameau, composed by M. Paul Dukas. His best playing, however, was in the well-known 'Gaspard de la Nuit,' piano poems by M. Maurice Ravel.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Concert, 2.30, Royal Albert Hall.
SUN.	Sunday Concert Society, 2.30, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Henry Ferry's Song Recital, 3, Steinway Hall.
MON.	London Symphony Orchestra, 8, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Johanna Heymann and Edward Lamb's Piano and Song Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
TUES.	Nicola Thomas's Violin Recital, 8.30, Æolian Hall.
TUES.	Parlovitz's Recital of Russian Music, 8.15, Steinway Hall.
TUES.	Gabrielle Vallings's Vocal Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
TUES.	Royal Philharmonic Society, 8, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Howard Jones's Pianoforte Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
WED.	Victor Benham's Recital, 8, Æolian Hall.
WED.	London Choral Society, 'Parafra,' 7.30, Queen's Hall.
THURS.	Amy Emerson Neill's Violin Recital, 8.15, Steinway Hall.
THURS.	Bessie Morray's Pianoforte Recital, 8.15, Æolian Hall.
FRI.	Stock Exchange Orchestral Society, 8.30, Queen's Hall.
FRI.	The Bach Choir; Bach's Mass in A minor, 7.30, Westminster Abbey.
SAT.	Theodore Byard's Song Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
SAT.	Rhapsody Symphony Orchestra, 8, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

Studies in Stagecraft. By Clayton Hamilton. (Grant Richards, 5s. net.)

'STUDIES IN STAGECRAFT' is described as a companion volume to the author's 'Theory of the Theatre' (reviewed in *The Athenæum*, Dec. 17th, 1910). The description is in this case specially accurate; both volumes consist of short essays on dramatic subjects put together without any sequence, while the author's scale of values expands and contracts without apparent relation to any fixed standards. Mr. Hamilton's strongest point is his ability to start discussions. He seizes innumerable matters of detail, over which he lingers, throwing out hints, but seldom achieving a satisfactory definiteness. He frequently says something which leads us to expect that we are at last coming to new and unexplored territories. But these are the moments when the clear streamlets of Mr. Hamilton's originality suddenly disappear in a misty sea of vague generalizations.

This is easily seen in the treatment of production. Mr. Hamilton appears to ask us to believe that the progress of this side of stagecraft during the last thirty years consists, first, in securing the illusion of absolute realism, regardless of expense, and, second, in the reduction of expense. Now while it may be true to say that different producers, working separately, have created these two forms of effects, it is wide of the mark to write as if Dr. Reinhardt and Gordon Craig were followers of Mr. David Belasco, or as if they had ever considered his work either as a model or as raw material. Neither Dr. Reinhardt nor Gordon Craig, in point of fact, strives to produce the illusion of realism. Moreover, there are many plays in which complete illusion is neither possible nor desirable; surely the best productions of 'Hamlet' are those in which a great deal is left to the imagination of the audience. If we seek to know what Mr. Hamilton considers will be the future of production—and he writes, he tells us, with reference to the future—we learn little, except possibly that the drama will be impressionist and poetic.

The reviewer is inclined to believe that the future of production lies in the direction of a greater diversity—that the time will come when the repertory system will be applied to producers as it is to-day to plays. When 'Hamlet' is produced on successive nights at the same theatre by Gordon Craig, Dr. Reinhardt, Mr. Barker, Mr. Poel, and Sir Herbert Tree, or by their successors, the public will at last have an opportunity of realizing the enormous importance of production in the theatre. Until then all efforts to oust one set of conventions at the expense of another will be largely futile.

Mr. Hamilton's discussions, though incomplete, are sufficiently provocative of thought to be well worth reading.

Dramatic Gossip.

On Tuesday afternoon three one-act plays were presented at the Arts Centre, Mortimer Street, under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise Club. Only one of them was actively propagandist, but all three were concerned with the Women's Movement. It would be unfair to divulge the plot of Mr. H. Vernon Carey's little piece 'Kindly Flames.' It must suffice to say that a somewhat familiar opening is followed by an ingenious surprise which extricates two of the characters from a seemingly hopeless tangle.

'Which?' by Evelyn Glover, concerns the problem of the father who can see no vocation for his daughter but the care of his household or marriage, and the daughter who holds more modern views. The author has worked out the situation with considerable skill.

'The Suffragette,' by Mr. Alfred Bucklaw, suffered rather from its air of propaganda, but the muscular prowess of the heroine, as practised on the other character in the piece—a tall and belligerent tramp—caused considerable amusement.

All three plays were competently acted; and, in addition to those mentioned, a spirited monologue was given during the afternoon by Miss Keith.

ONLY one of the five one-act plays produced on Wednesday afternoon at the Pavilion rose above sheer banality, and even that one—'A Powerful Remedy,' by Kerry Gordon—though it had its moments of humour, was loosely put together, dealing largely in the commonplace and artificial. It seems extraordinary that the management cannot discover pieces of more merit—or even of less demerit—for production. There must be many young writers who could do better stuff, and would eagerly seize the chance to get their plays produced.

At the Court Theatre, on Sunday evening, the Play Actors are presenting 'The One Thing Needful,' also a three-act comedy, by Estelle Burney and Herbert Swears. It will be preceded by a one-act play, 'On the Road to Cork,' in which Mr. W. G. Fay will take the principal part.

THE STAGE PLAYERS will present next Friday afternoon, at the Ambassadors' Theatre, a three-act comedy by A. Kenward Matthews, called 'A Royal Chef.' Mr. Ben Webster is to appear in the title-part.

'MY LADY'S DRESS,' a new play in three acts, by Mr. Edward Knoblauch, will be produced by Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie at the Royalty Theatre on April 21st. Each of the three acts is divided into three scenes. Gladys Cooper and Mr. Dennis Eadie will play the principal parts, and Mr. Edmund Maurice will also have a prominent place in the cast.

In order that the cast which acted M. Brioux's 'Damaged Goods' at the Little Theatre may remain unchanged, it has been decided to begin the further series of performances of that play at the Court Theatre on Tuesday next at 2.30, instead of on Sunday, as originally announced. The other performances will be on Tuesday, April 7th, and on Sunday, April 19th, both at 8.30.

On the 16th inst. the members of the Comité de Lecture of the Comédie Française decided to produce a play entitled 'Les Demoiselles Granger-Martin,' by Madame Gabriel Mourey. This is the second play by a woman which has been accepted by the French national theatre since the beginning of the year, Mlle. Lenéru's 'La Triomphatrice' being the other.

'ROBERT FRANK,' the play with which Dr. Sigurd Ibsen made his début, is shortly to appear in an English translation.

MR. OSWALD STOLL has recently been arguing that stage children may reasonably be exempted from the operation of the Children (Employment and School Attendance) Bill, and Mr. Henry Arthur Jones strongly supports him. Mr. Jones writes from the point of view, first, of managers, who will be exposed to the dislocating interference of education authorities; and then of the children themselves, to whom, he thinks, will be done "a great indirect injury...by choking the formation of a sound body of public opinion on matters that greatly concern their nurture and well-being." He goes, moreover, so far as to say that "a stage without children...tends to the production of plays like the comedies of the Restoration."

Apart from what children may see and hear behind the scenes—which should not, however, be lightly dismissed as a negligible danger—we are far from being convinced that the stage offers them an environment physically and mentally wholesome. There is something illogical, something morally absurd, in injuring children, even if it were but slightly, and encouraging their employers in indifference to their welfare, for the pretended purpose of enlightening the humanity, and quickening the domestic affections, of the rest of the public.

But the injuries inflicted can by no reasonable citizen be regarded as slight. The physical wear and tear, both of the business of acting itself and of the endurance of unnatural conditions accompanying it, is destructive. Again, children employed on the stage become infected with the vulgar affectations, craving for notoriety, and distaste for whatever is not immediately exciting which coarsen and blunt the minds of so many of their seniors.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. — W. E. G. F.—D.—A. C. M.—G. LE G. N.—G. M.—Received.

We do not undertake to give the value of books, china, pictures, &c.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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